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GENEALOGIES

OF

OUR ARMS GRANDFATHERS

by

Nettie A. Graves

and

Ella M. Graves

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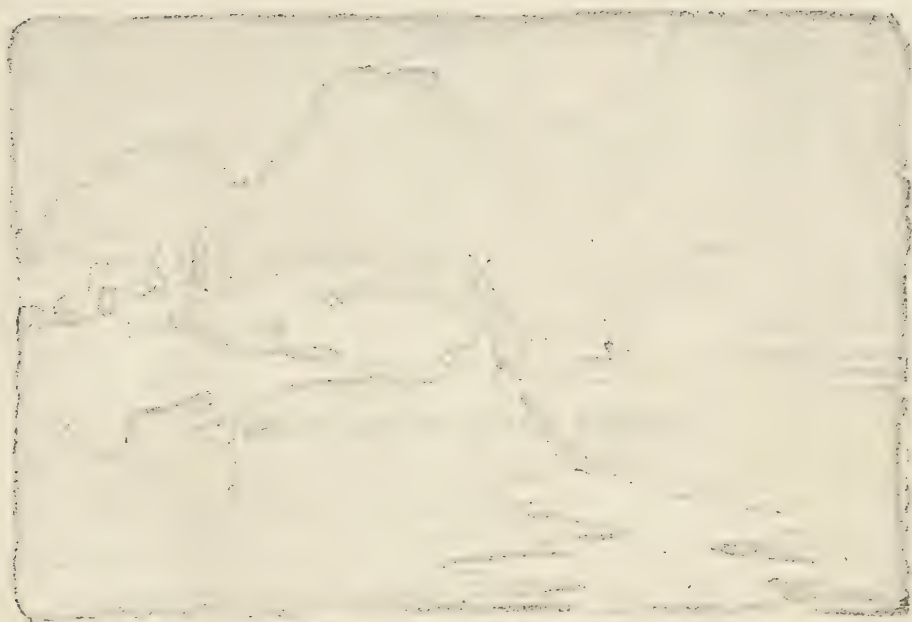
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PART ONE

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The Genealogies of

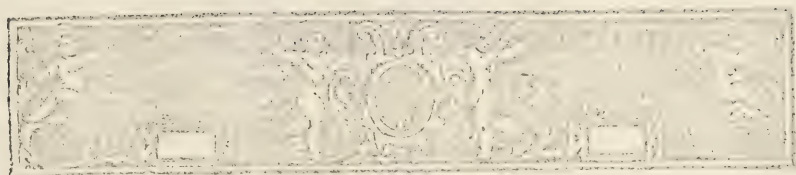
Our Arms Grandfathers



STORE OF THE FINEST

"Hitherto hath the LORD helped us."

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Preface

The list of our known Arms ancestors comprises nearly fifty different names. Among them all, not one of which we need to be ashamed. On the contrary, their mention recalls only the best blood of New England. Ours is a sturdy, Puritan ancestry, of brave, Christian men and women. Though they rest from their labors, their works have followed them down through the centuries, and to-day, we, their grandchildren of the ninth generation, reap the rich harvest they have sown.

Of these fifty heads of families, thirty, at least, were emigrant ancestors, born in England, and coming to this country between the years 1629 and 1652.

PREFACE

We know the names of eleven ships in which they sailed from the old England, to the New.

The MARY and JOHN, 1630.

The WILLIAM and FRANCIS, 1632.

The LION, 1632.

The GRIFFIN, 1633.

The FRANCIS, 1634.

The DORSET, 1635.

The PLANTER, 1635.

The GLOBE, 1635.

The ELIZABETH, 1635.

The INCREASE, 1635.

The ST. JOHN, 1639.

Among the many towns they founded, and of which many of them were the first settlers, are Dorchester, Windsor, Hartford, New Haven, Wethersfield, Northampton, Hadley, Northfield, Sunderland, Amherst, Deerfield, Conway, Mass., and Newark, N. J.

Only one of our ancestors went out from New England: John Catlin, who became one of the founders and first proprietors of Newark, New Jersey.

"Our Fathers were essentially a martial people. The warlike virtues were to them a necessity, and military titles were in high repute among them. The Corporal was on the road to distinction. A Sergeant had already attained dis-

PREFACE

tion, and his title was never omitted. *An Ensign, or a Lieutenant, was lifted quite above the heads of his fellows. A Captain was naturally a man of great influence.*"

Our list of officers of the Colonial Militia numbers sixteen: Three Captains, Five Lieutenants, Four Ensigns, Four Sergeants.

Two of our Arms Grandfathers were ministers of the Gospel:

Rev. SAMUEL STONE,

Rev. HENRY SMITH.

Eight were slain by Indians. Three on the Battle field:

Sergt. SAMUEL BOLTWOOD,

Ensign JOHN DICKINSON,

JOSEPH CATLIN.

Five were surprised and massacred in their homes:

Sergt. ISAAK GRAVES,

JOHN CATLIN,

ROBERT BARTLETT,

ELIZABETH SMEAD,

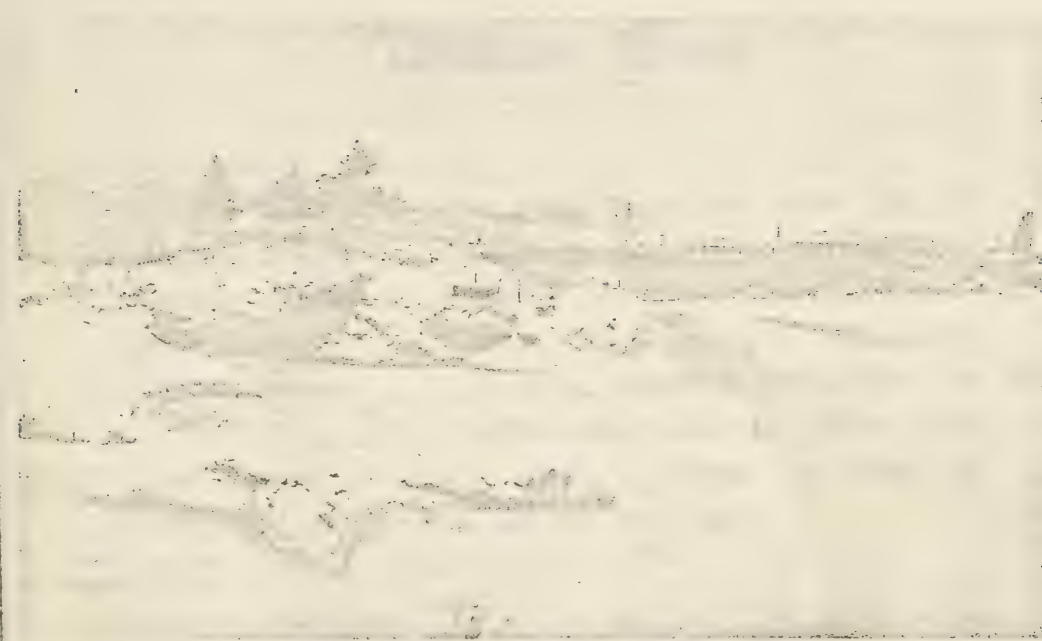
HANNAH SHELDON.

The Arms and Graves lines have crossed in our ancestry, twelve times.

Our researches have included a careful examination of family, church, town, county, and state records.

PREFACE

The compilers, not without regret, draw their labors to a close. So many of the Arms name are known and dear to us, it has been a work of love to preserve this slight record of their strong, patient, Christian lives, and we are thankful that we "have been able to gather from the crumbling pages of the past" and leave in an enduring form, for the benefit of succeeding generations, these sketches of the genealogy and history of our Family, whose ancestors were honest, enterprising, God-fearing men and women, with virtues worthy the imitation of their descendants.



Turners Falls
The Scene of "Falls Fight", May 19, 1676.

William Arms

William Arms, our emigrant ancestor, came from the
Daniel Arms— Island of Guernsey, or Jersey, in the
Consider Arms— English channel. He was born in
John Arms— 1654. He emigrated to this country
Martha Arms— in 1674, appearing first in the Con-
necticut River valley as a soldier, under
Capt. Turner, of Hadley, April 6, 1676, just before the
Falls Fight, in which he took an active part.

The Story of the Falls Fight

The occasion of the Fight is set forth in a letter, dated Hadley, April 29, 1676, to the Governor and Council of Massachusetts, written by the Rev. John Russell, son of one of our grandfathers on the Graves side.

"This morning about sunrise, came into Hatfield, one Thomas Reede (a soldier who was taken captive) He relates

that they, (the Indians), are now planting at Deerfield, and have been so these three or four days or more, saith further, that they dwell at the Falls, on both sides the river, are a considerable number, yet most of them old men and women. He cannot judge that there are on both sides the river above 60 or 70, fighting men. They are secure, and scornful, boasting of great things they have done or will do. This being the state of things, we think the Lord calls us to make some trial what may be done against them suddenly, without further delay, and therefore the concurring resolution of men here seems to be to go out against them tomorrow at night so as to be with them, the Lord assisting, before the break of day. We need guidance, and help from Heaven. We humbly beg your prayers, advice and help if may be."

(Signed) JOHN RUSSELL.

WILLIAM TURNER.

JOHN LYMAN.

ISAAC GRAVES.

The two last our fifth great-grandfathers on the Graves side.

THE FALLS FIGHT

About 150 or 160 mounted men, from Springfield, Westfield, Northampton, Hadley, and Hatfield, assembled at Hatfield, May 18, 1676, commanded by Capt. William

Turner, and his assistants, Capt. Samuel Holyoke, and our fifth Great-grandfather on the Graves' side, Lieut. John Lyman, of Northampton. Hadley had two Sergeants, John Dickinson, and Joseph Kellogg, both our fifth Great-grandfathers on the Arms side. Perhaps about half were inhabitants of these towns, the others were soldiers, (William Arms one of them) from Eastern towns, stationed in Hampshire.

They commenced their march of 20 miles from Hatfield to the Falls, in the evening of Thursday, the 18th of May. They crossed Deerfield and Green rivers, and halted a little west of Fall river, about half a mile from the Indian camp at the head of the Falls, leaving their horses under a small guard.

They then crossed Fall river, climbed up an abrupt hill, and came upon the back of the camp about daybreak. These Falls, now called 'Turner's Falls, are about three miles above Greenfield village.

They "found the Indians all asleep, without having any scouts abroad, so that our soldiers came and put their guns into their wigwams, and did make a great and notable slaughter among them. Some got out of the wigwams and fought and killed one of the English, others did enter the river to swim over from the English, but many were shot dead in waters, others wounded, were therein drowned. Many got into canoes to paddle away, but the paddles being

shot, the canoes overset, with all therein, and the stream being violent and swift near the Falls, most that fell overboard were carried upon the Falls."

Unfortunately there were Indians on the opposite bank of the river, and below the Falls. These crossed the river and assailed the troops after they had mounted their horses and begun their march. And, an English captive told who was found in the wigwams spake as if King Philip was coming with a thousand Indians. His report caused a panic among the soldiers, and "they hasted homewards in a confused rout."

Capt. Turner was shot as he passed through Green river, and his body was afterwards found a short distance from the river.

Capt. Holyoke conducted the retreat of a part of the troops to Holfield, being followed by the Indians to the south end of Deerfield meadow. 42 of the English were slain, all but one after leaving the Falls.

Probably about 150 to 180 Indians, old and young, perished at the Falls that morning. The defeat of the Indians at the Falls was one from which they never recovered. The Pocumtucks suffered severely, and their power was broken forever, making this an important and necessary victory.

Eleven of our great-grandfathers took part in this Falls Fight—only one, John Dickinson, was slain.

The ten others were—

WILLIAM ARMS,	JOHN LYMAN,
SAMUEL BOLTWOOD,	JOHN MUNN,
NATHANIEL DICKINSON,	GODFREY NIMS,
JOHN INGRAHAM,	SAMUEL BELDING,
JOSEPH KELLOGG,	WILLIAM SMEAD.

William Arms settled in Hatfield, and Nov. 21, 1677, married Joanna, daughter of John Hawks, one of the original settlers of old Hadley.

While in Hatfield he was largely interested in real estate. He also owned real estate at Hartford. When he came to Deerfield in 1698, he settled at the south end of the street on "Arms Corner," for which he exchanged a house and land in Hartford.

The first schoolhouse in Deerfield was built in 1698, and one of the "persons the town did choose, and empower in the carrying on of the schoolhouse aforesaid, and in hiring a schoolmaster," was William Arms.

The same year he was chosen farm-viewer; in 1699, constable; 1700, a tything man; 1701, a fence-viewer; and school commissioner.

In 1698, William Arms purchased a farm which he divided into three homelots for his three sons.

After the Deerfield massacre, Feb. 29. 1704, it is recorded, "William Arms, wife and five children, alive, at home."

The French and Indians entered Deerfield at the upper end of the town, and returned the same way. The houses below the Fort were not attacked, and as the William Arms house was the last on the street (some distance from the Fort), he, and his family escaped.

In the Grant of 1712, enlarging the bounds of Deerfield to include Conway, and the nearby towns, William Arms' division consisted of 11 Commons, or common rights, 11 acres, and 80 rods. In 1701 and 1707, he made purchases in farming land, which he afterwards sold in 1708, to Ensign John Sheldon, in whose family for 177 years this lot has remained.

About 1717, he removed to Sunderland, being one of the 40 first settlers of that town. He was chosen on a committee to lay out one of the highways. Both the Sunderland and Deerfield Records mention him as a "great speculator in real estate." As early as 1722, he returned to Deerfield, where he lived in the house on "Arms' Corner," until his death.

The site of the William Arms homestead was well chosen. At the extreme lower end of the beautiful old Deer-

field Street, it overlooks the river, and the Deerfield meadows. The view is extensive and very charming. Occasionally, on the meadow land one of the wonderful old Elms, for which the Deerfield Street is noted, is seen standing, a reminder



of the great forest, which once surrounded the home of our ancestor, and from out of whose depths, at any moment, a savage Indian, with tomahawk and firebrand, might spring.

It is written of William Arms that he was a good far-

mer, industrious and economical, devoted, and religious, and a quiet and obliging neighbor.

One other interesting fact about him has come down to us—that he would knit a pair of stockings, while on horse back, going to and returning from the mill at Halfield. In the Sunderland records he is called—"The Good Mr. Arms."

We give a photograph of the old chest, with the initials "W. A." carved upon it, which our ancestor brought with him from Old England.

This is preserved in the Memorial Hall, of Deerfield.

William Arms died Aug. 25, 1731, aged 77 years, and was laid in the old Deerfield burying-ground, being one of the nine soldiers buried there, who followed Turner through the turmoil and din of the battle, which cost their Captain his life, and named the scene of the conflict, Turners Falls.

William Arms was our third Great-grandfather.

Daniel Arms

Our Second Great-Grandfather.

Daniel, son of William, and Joanna (Hawks) Arms, was born in Hatfield, Sept. 11, 1687. He was about 11 years old when his father moved to Deerfield, which town became Daniel's home until his death. He lived on the old homestead property, purchased 1698, and divided among William's three sons.

Daniel Arms married Dec. 4, 1716, Esther, daughter of Ebenezer Smead.

They had eleven children. In 1723, his division of the Grant of 8000 acres, including Comsar, was 13 Commons—12 acres—60 rods. In 1727, he is mentioned as a loan subscriber toward purchasing a church bell, to the amount of 10 pounds.

1730, chosen a Selectman. In 1743, another division of land towards Hoosac, was granted him, 94 acres. In 1744, he was appointed "to see to building a 'Mound' of protection." These "Mounds" were square towers with a strong post at each corner, built for watch boxes. They were

from 14 to 40 feet high, according to location. The top story about 8 or 10 feet square, was usually planked, and made a bullet-proof sentry box. These "Mounts" were ordered built May 21, 1744, only two days after the news of the declaration of war between France and England was known in the colonies. Deerfield, being a frontier town, with no settlement between it and Canada, needed special protection.

A letter from Daniel Arms to his brother-in-law:

"Mr. Wright: Sir—

"I would inform you that I expect this day to receive some money, and if I do, I will send what is Due to you in a short time.

"I would not have you put me to charge about it.

"This, in Haste, with Love to you and sister, from your loving Brother and Humble Servant.

"Deerfield ye 29th day of April, 1745."

Daniel Arms died Sept. 28, 1753.



William Arm's Chest
1676

Consider Arms

Our Great-Grandfather.

Consider, son of Daniel, and Esther Smead Arms, was born in Deerfield, Oct. 14, 1736.

His mother died when he was but two months old, but the next year his father married again, so we may hope the little boy was well cared for. We next hear of him in 1757, 21 years of age, and a soldier in active service in the French war, being one of a company belonging to the garrison of Fort William Henry.

In the great disaster of this year, the capture of Fort William Henry, many Deerfield men were involved.

The Company under Capt. Barnard, were stationed in the Fort, which was held by Col. Munroe, with 2,500 men. It was besieged by Montcalm, Aug. 3d, and on the 9th it surrendered upon honorable terms.

The French troops were to escort the garrison towards Fort Edward, under the terms of capitulation, but instead, left them to the mercy of the Indians, who fell upon the officers and soldiers, robbing them of their baggage, and

ARMS

butchering the sick, the women, and children, many soldiers sharing the same fate. This was very stern warfare for the young soldier.

In 1758, Consider Arms' name is among the Deerfield men on the descriptive Rolls of Lord Loudon's forces.

1759, the Record says, "Consider Arms served under Capt. John 'Burke.'" This may have been the Crown Point expedition.

For these years of brave and arduous service, he received the commission of Captain from the King.

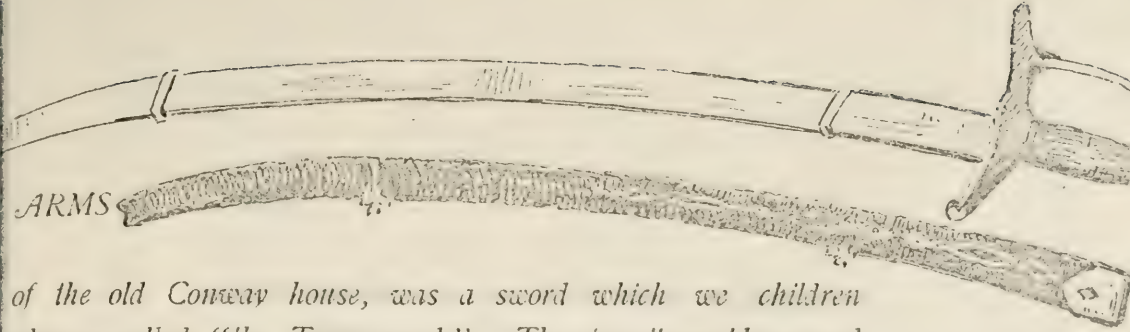
In 1763, Conway was laid out to the several owners of commons, and in the division Capt. Consider Arms became a large landholder there. His farm included nearly 400 acres. 'A portion of it, with the old homestead of our grandfather, is still held in the family.

All titles to land in Conway, Shelburne, Greenfield or Gill, are derived from the Proprietors of Pocumtuck (Deerfield).

Its meetings were held in Deerfield, and records kept for 135 years, until the entire property was disposed of, by grant, division, or sale.

Dec. 11, 1765, Capt. Consider Arms married Mercy, daughter of John Catlin. They settled in Conway, where probably their fourteen children were born.

Among the family heirlooms, stored away in the garret



ARMS

of the old Conway house, was a sword which we children always called "the Tory sword." Therefore it must be named under the breath, for it belonged to our great-grandfather, and he was a Tory.

Then, the word sounded in our ears almost like Traitor. Yet that sword, as well as the gun mentioned in his will, were carried in the defence of his country, just as truly as those of any Revolutionary Patriot.

When asked the question, "Consider Arms was a Tory?" his granddaughter replied (with a characteristic touch of the Arms spirit) "He was a soldier, and fought for his King!"

In the history of Deerfield, his native town, we read: "The Tories were neither better nor worse than their neighbors. They were honorable men of good character, and of good repute. Men who had done good service for their town, and country. They were Tories on principle. Men loyal to their King. Many of them had held commissions from the King, in the late wars."

Such a one was our great-grandfather, Capt. Consider Arms.

It is also interesting to note, in proof of this statement, that as soon as the war of the Revolution was over, and the differences settled, these men resumed their places as honored and trusted citizens. In 1788, Capt. Arms was

ARMS

elected member of the Constitutional Convention.

Conway, in 1782, was one of the largest towns of the County.

In the meadow opposite the Conway homestead, is a ledge of rock, partly shaded by an old mulberry tree. It is the site of Consider Arms' house. Behind the chimney in the garret of this house, was a spot, to which there was no entrance through the house, where, during the Tory persecution, it is said he was hidden away, while his food was drawn up through a window.

Although the homestead was not finished until two years after Consider's death, it is thought that he knew of the plan, for his own house was old and small, and no longer suitable for his wife and family. He may have seen the foundations laid for the new home.

Of his personal appearance we know nothing, only that he "had a fine figure in the saddle," and we also imagine him to be rather quick of speech.

There are many papers preserved in the old Conway homestead, signed by Consider Arms. Those we have chosen to print are of peculiar interest to the Arms family.

The earliest deed, dated 1762, refers to some land between Deerfield and Greenfield, purchased by Consider Arms from John Arms (his cousin). The paper, dated Sept. 10, 1775, which is all in his own handwriting, refers to "the home-

I have been thinking of you very much lately
 and wondering how you are getting on.
 I hope you are well and happy.
 I am still the same old me.
 I have been thinking of you very much lately
 and wondering how you are getting on.
 I hope you are well and happy.
 I am still the same old me.

[illegible]

Deed Of Sale Of Land Between
Capt. Consider Arms And Phineas Graves.

lot 77, on which I now live," and is partially explained by the fact that in the first division of land in Conway, 1763, Lot 77 was given to Samuel Dickinson's heirs, one of whom was Hannah Dickinson Williams. Consider Arms' lot then being No. 78, evidently there was some difficulty in adjusting the two.

The deed of 1779, is of special interest, as it chronicles a sale of land made by our great-grandfather, "Consider Arms, gentleman," to our great-great-grandfather, "Phineas Graves, yeoman."

Capt. Consider Arms died June 19, 1792, aged only 56.

He was buried near the entrance of the old Burying ground. His feeling against tombstones, because he thought they "seldom told the truth," has kept his grave from being marked.

THE WILL OF CAPT. CONSIDER ARMS.

"I, Consider Arms, of Conway, in the County of Hampshire, and Commonwealth of Mass. Gentleman; do this Seventeenth day of June, in the year of our Lord, 1792. Hereby make, ordain, publish, and declare, my last Will and Testament, in manner following:

"*Viz*; My will is that all the just debts which I shall owe at the time of my decease, shall be paid, and that the funeral be directed, and the charges thereof be paid in convenient time after my decease, by my executors herein after

named, and to the paying of these said debts, and funeral charges, I hereby subject my personal estate (not herein after given to my wife) and also any part or all my lands in the Genesee country, and I desire my said executors to use their best discretion in paying said debts and funeral charges, either entirely by said personal estate, here before made liable therefor, or entirely by the proceeds of sale of said lands, or partly by the same personal estate, and partly by the proceeds of sale of the same lands as they shall judge expedient, and thereby authorize and full empower my said executors to make sale of and execute sufficient deed, or deeds, of any part or all of the aforesaid lands for the purpose afore mentioned.

"I give and bequeath to my Beloved Wife, Mercy, one third part of all my personal estate forever, and Whereas I am possessed of the kindest Love and regard for my said Wife, and our Children hereafter mentioned and have the greatest Confidence in her good judgment prudent management and tender affection for the said children, many of whom are now minors, and whose situation after my Decease, may particularly call for the attention of such a parent, I have therefore thought proper for her comfortable and decent support, and for the benefit of our children, to make the following Disposition, viz;

"My Will is that immediately after my Decease, my

said *Wife* shall go into possession of, and hold and improve all my estate, both real and personal, not otherwise heretofore disposed of, during her natural life; not doubting that she will during her holding said estate as aforesaid, at all times carefully attend to the situation of each of our said children, and assist them as their respective circumstances may require;

“All the rest, residue, and Remainder of my estate both real and personal, I here by give, devise, and bequeath to my children hereafter named; *Viz*; Daniel, Israel, Henry, Sophia, Dorothy, John, Polly, Mercy, Christopher, Oliver, Abner, Louisa, Clarissa, or their respective children, or legal representatives, or representatives which may be living at the Decease of my said wife, in following proportion; to each of my said sons as share, equal one to the other, and to each of my said Daughters, one quarter part so much as either of my said Sons; excepting however, that as I have heretofore advanced for each of my said Daughters, Sophia, and Dorothy, at their respective times of marriage, somewhat, *Viz*;—for Sophia 30 Pounds. and for Dorothy, 25 Pounds. My Will is that the aforesaid sums shall be considered as part of their respective shares.

“And I hereby constitute, ordain, and appoint my aforesaid *Wife* Mercy, Seth Catlin of Deerfield, in said County Esq. and my two sons Daniel, and Israel, executors of this my last Will and Testament; Hereby revoking all former

ARMS

Wills by me at any time heretofore made, and declaring this to be my Last Will and Testament,

"in witness hereof

"I have hereunto set my hand and seal, the day and year above written ;

Our Great-grandfather Samuel Boltwood was one of the witnesses.

Sep 10 1895

Mrs of Miss Hummer Williams Twenty five pounds
thirteen shillings & four pence Longwell money
in full of all Demands that I have against
her especially on acct of a deficiency in a
lot of Land W^g in Conway on which I have
deeds - Purchased of her the 20th November
Paid by me - Confided Arms

over M. S.

18-2-3 - 2-9/4 - 7 acres 26-14-6

2 years - 10 months Jan 18-97-10

£ 24. 13. 4

Receipt in Capt. Consider Arms Handwriting.

ARMS

A PORTION OF THE INVENTORY OF THE REAL AND PERSONAL ESTATE OF CONSIDER ARMS.

July

1792.

<i>A Broadcloth Coat, & vest, One coat</i>	3-0-0
<i>Nankeen vest, Breeches, One Great coat</i>	12
<i>House clock. 1 case of Drawers. One fall table</i>	4-5-0
<i>One trunk. Two great chairs. Six chairs.</i>	2-5-0
<i>Nine old chairs. Two tables. One desk</i>	1-19-0
<i>Two linnen chests.</i>	9-0
<i>Two looking glasses. One Great Bible. One small, do.</i>	2-3-0
<i>One Dictionary, Young's Night thoughts, Tragedy etc.</i>	7-0
<i>1 brass Skittle.</i>	15-0

ONE GUN.

<i>The farm in Conway, lately occupied by the said Consider, computed to be about 120 Acres, with the buildings thereon</i>	600-0-0
<i>The farm in the northern part of Conway (Hoosac) supposed to contain about 230 acres, with the buildings on the same</i>	900-0-0
<i>One half a Grist mill.</i>	50-0-0
<i>The value of the entire Inventory, about</i>	\$8000

THE DEFENSE OF CONSIDER.

(Written by his Great-granddaughter.)

*This loyal Consider
Spoke well of his widow,
Which shows he knew a good thing.
He was never a spy—
This they all testify—
Only faithful and true to his King.
Nor was he a rebel
Like those other poor devils
Of whom hard words could be said;
But kept out of the fight,
Ate chickens at night,
And was honest and true until dead.*

*I know it's been said
Of this good man long dead,
He might have been a bit bolder;
For when the people grew hot
He fled from the spot
And stayed until they were colder.*

ARMS

*This may have been true,
But this is my view;
It's Consider we're in need of to-day;
Who will talk less of fight,
And do nearer right,
And cease acting like creatures that bray.
And let me say here,
To all you, who still sneer,
To all who must rave over Revolutionary braves—
Since it's now the great aim
To be of Colonial fame,
Why not be content,
With a blessing that's sent?*

F. G. L.

John Arms

Our Grandfather.

John, son of Consider, and Mercy (Catlin) Arms, was born in Conway, Feb. 26, 1774. He was the sixth child, in a family of fourteen, of whom there were seven boys and seven girls. Our grandfather was 18 years old when his father died.

His oldest brother, Daniel, had married, and removed to Sodus, N. Y., and the next brother, Israel, seems to have fancied hunting, and high living, rather than the steady routine of a farmer's life. Harry, the third brother, had been given the Hoosac farm as his share of his father's estate. The older sisters married, and moved to homes of their own, and before he was 21, our grandfather had taken his place as the head of the family, remaining in his father's home.

In 1794, the Conway Homestead, (Maple Green) was built. The date was found on one of the oak rafters in the old garret, when the additional story was put on.

Six years later, our grandfather brought to this home

his young bride, Martha Boltwood. They were married Jan. 23, 1800. Our grandfather was then 26 years old. The first wedding at Maple Green, was that of grandfather's sister Polly, in 1799. She was the first of the long list of brides who went out from the shelter of that protecting roof.

When our grandmother became mistress of the home, she found her husband's mother and sisters, already established in the rooms on the west side of the house, but the two families lived independent lives, and no report of any friction has come down to us.

"Grandmother Mercy" was devoted to her son John, having chosen to make her home with him, in preference to her other sons, and for over 20 years he cared most tenderly for his mother.

An orphan niece, having permission to select her guardian from among her many uncles, chose without hesitation her "Uncle Jack," and was made most welcome as a dear daughter in his home. On our last visit to Conway, we found a carefully itemized expense account, in our grandfather's handwriting, kept by him for this niece, (his sister's child) Sophia (Abbey) Hawks, showing his faithful administration of her estate.

John Arms became a man honored in the community. He was for two years Representative to the General Court, at Boston.

Franklin County was separated from Hampshire County in 1812, and our grandfather was appointed the first Census taker, which office he held for many years.

One document dated, "District Marshall's Office, June 2d, 1812," reads:

"Sir;—I have this day been directed, and enabled by the Secretary of the Treasury, to remunerate you as one of my Assistants, for your time and trouble in ascertaining and returning a Statement of the Manufactures with in the section assigned you for taking the last Census. The Compensation allowed you amounts to One hundred and twentyone dollars, and 08 Cents.

"Duplicate receipts corresponding with this amount is herewith enclosed. Be pleased to sign each of these and the money shall be immediately paid at this Office, either to yourself, or the person presenting the receipts."

The document reappointing him to this office in 1820, reads:

"United States of America. District of Massachusetts.

"To all who may see these presents, James Prince, Marshall in and for the District aforesaid, sends greeting,

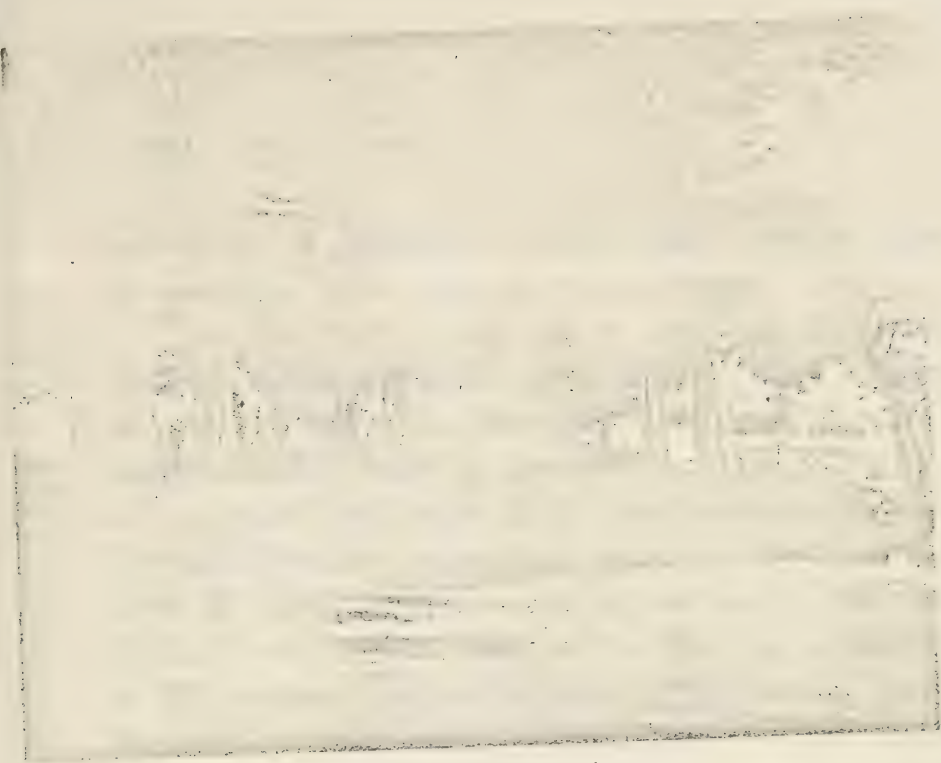
"Pursuant to the authority vested in me by a Law of the U. S. entitled 'an act providing for the fourth census, or enumeration of the inhabitants of the U. S., and by the Laws altering and amending the same,' I do hereby, constitute

and appoint John Arms, Esquire, of Conway, in the County of Franklin, within the 'District aforesaid, an Assistant to the Marshall of the District of Mass. to execute the duties required of Assistants, created and appointed by said Law, and I do assign unto the said John Arms, Assistants as aforesaid, the following division, within the District situate in the County of Franklin, in which you are a resident. *Viz* :—the Towns of Buckland, Hawley, Ashfield, Conway, Deerfield, Whateley, and Sunderland.

*“Given Under My Hand And Seal,
at Boston (within the District) this Thirtieth
day of June, in the year Eighteen hundred
and twenty, and of the independence of the
United States, the Fortyfourth.”*

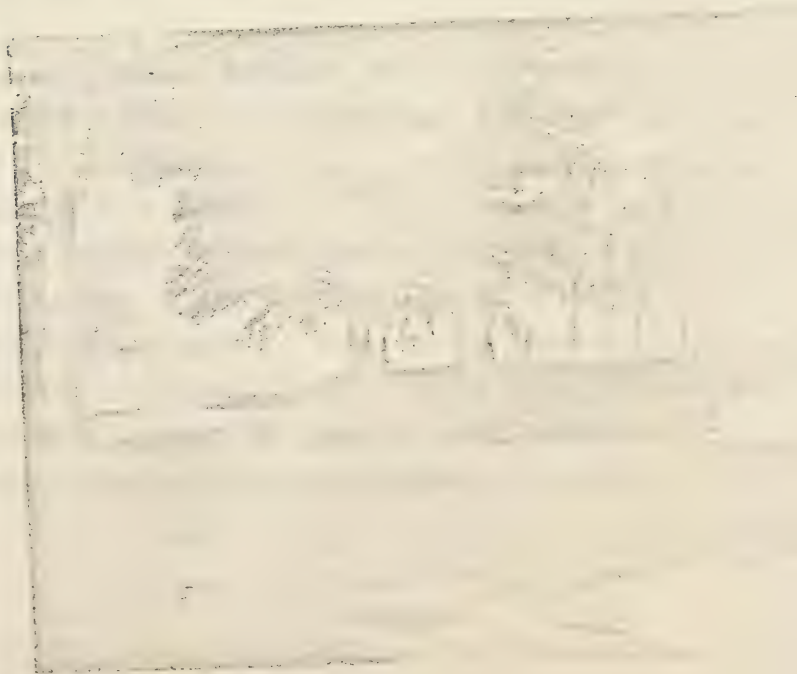
John Arms was also Surveyor of Highways, and at that time the old stage road from Deerfield to Ashfield, passed through his farm, and directly by his door. As Representative he attained to the title of Hon. John Arms, and his advice was sought by his fellow townsmen in all matters pertaining to the interests of Franklin County.

Bul, physically, he was never a strong man, suffering from a chronic trouble, which at intervals occasioned attacks of severe pain. His daughter says she never saw him handle a scythe or plough. He could only do light work in the



Maple Avenue.

Pear Trees
And Maples
Planted By
Our Grandfather.



garden, but "he knew how to direct others," and his large farm was one of the finest in Franklin County.

He was fond of trees, and to him, we, his grandchildren, owe the magnificent row of Maples, which ornament the lawn in front of the Homestead, and shade the road, (Maple Avenue) leading to the house.

As the years rolled by, the family (nine daughters and four sons) filled two square pews in the old Baptist church, where the father and mother, one at each end of the back seat, kept watch over the little ones in front; our grandfather in his accustomed position, his hands clasped on the top of his cane. He was a deeply religious man, and his convictions concerning baptism were so strong, that at his request, both himself and wife were immersed in the river running below the farm.

Because of his generous hospitality, the farm was called the "Minister's Stopping Place," and they came with their families, not only for a Sabbath, but in one instance, at least, the visit was extended to a month!

When seated at table, he would turn to the guest, always using the same form of speech—"Say a word for us!" But our grandfather never made a public prayer himself, feeling he could not do so sincerely.

As his daughters married, he gave to each, besides their wedding outfit, \$200, for a marriage portion.

The following letter was written to his daughter, Mary, (Mrs. Rufus R. Graves):

“Concord, Nov. 4, 1846.

“Rufus and Mary;

“Dear Children—The steady hand that rules one of the pens you gave me, is evidence that the visit to Brooklyn had a good effect on the nerves, and so it did. How could it be otherwise, when everything within and without was rendered so pleasant.

“I think now, to have a comfortable winter, if it be not lost by my own misconduct. You may know that I think all our temporal blessings, both of mind and body, depend on our own actions, as God is ever present to reward the good and virtuous, and to reprove the evil and vicious. We may therefore be wise and improve our talent, from one to ten, and principal and interest will be all our own, or we may fool away the one talent given us, by our Heavenly Parent, and have nothing.

“Yet all this, has no effect to win or lose that great blessing of a life in Heaven hereafter. For that rests on a foundation far better than the whims of our works. If it were not so, the most of us would fail, for but few are able to find and follow that straight and narrow way that leads directly there. This is not written for your instruction, but to gratify your curiosity with my notions on the subject.

"Your mother thinks the sea voyage beneficial on the whole, though she was sick. Yes, very sick. So much so, that she laid down anywhere, and anyhow, and put the straw bonnet all out of form, but she came to life again in the smooth water of the bay, before we got there, and has been unusually well ever since.

"I shall, through life, reflect on the visit to your house, with much pleasure and satisfaction. Shall remember how the little children climbed up all at once. God grant it may again take place Here or there, or both. Which is, and ever will be the prayer of your father."

John Arms

Our grandfather was a man of strong friendships. In early life, there were three men closely connected with him: Col. Rice, old Dr. Hamilton and Noah Dickinson. And, later, Squire Taft, and Gen. Longley, who were also associated with him as County Commissioners.

His daughter remembers a call from Col. Rice's son, who said to grandfather, "Do you know why I have come? Because the Bible says 'Thy Father's friend forsake not.'"

Our grandfather was a gentleman of the old school. Handsome, dignified in appearance. Always wearing a ruffled shirt. Brown eyes, which could be black on occasion. A

little stately in manner, it is no wonder that his daughters stood somewhat in awe of him, and if they had a request to make, besought "Mother" to "ask" for them.

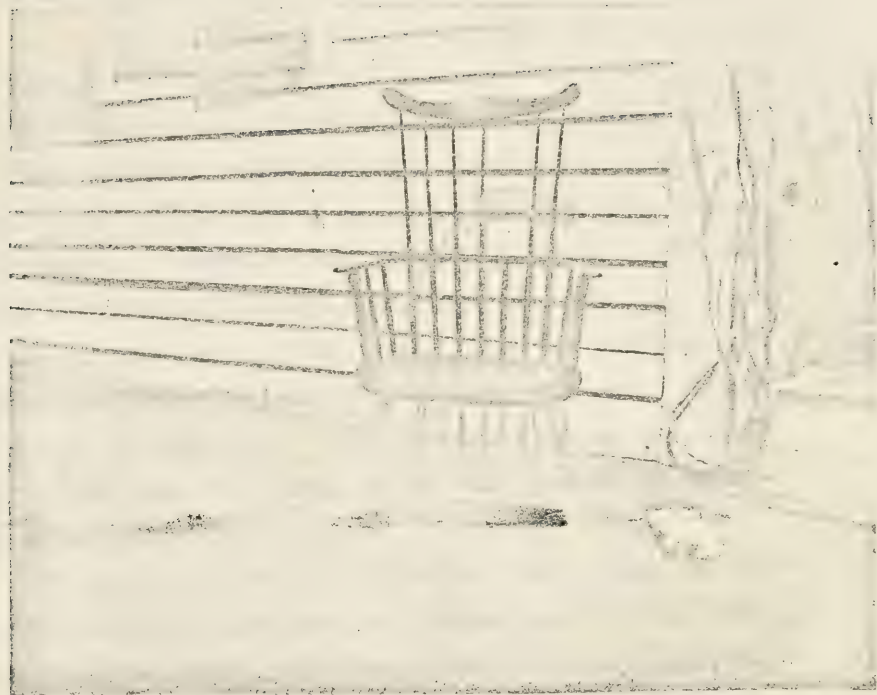
On one occasion he was going to Sunderland to visit his friend, Squire Taft. His little girl, Cornelia, wanted very much to make the trip too, as Squire Taft's daughter was her special playmate. But she dared not ask her father, so as usual, applied to "Mother." And "Mother" said, "Father, Nellie wants dreadfully to go with you!"

"Why, of course!" he replied. "I was going to take her anyway. I want her to hold the umbrella!"

Can we imagine that ride, taken over seventy years ago!

To his older grandchildren, the memories of our grandfather are always associated with the side porch at Maple Green, where was his favorite seat, and to-day we handle reverently "Grandfather Arms' chair;" and one time as he sat there, a little granddaughter climbed into his lap, and laid her cheek against his. Her mother as she saw his benign approval, and the patience with which he suffered the indignity of having his face patted and pinched by the baby hand, exclaimed,

"What would I not have given to have dared to treat my father in that familiar manner!"



Grandfather Arms Chair. 1796.

A letter written to his daughter, Mrs. Rufus R. Graves.

"Jan. 31, 1849.

"Dear Mary,

"You will always like to hear from us, whether sick or well. My infirmities rather increase (and your mother is not much better off) but as it is caused by my own imprudence, heretofore, I ought to bear it with patience. All who transgress the laws of Heaven that ought to rule us, must render an account soon or late, and since the iniquities of the fathers are visited upon the children, you and Rufus should be on the look out. One misstep may let the enemy into the citadel, and the bombs of all the quacks will not be able to drive him out.

"We have a letter from Martha, with a plan of the house and buildings, shade trees and flower gardens; that, with your husband's account of the farm, shows it to be a valuable and very cheap purchase. We were fearful the splendid mansion would deprive us of the summer visit, but are pleased to find by your letter that you still look toward home.

"If you really wish to hire a house, and can't do better, will let you the old back kitchen, where you spent the morning of your life so pleasantly, and it has been pleasant ever since.

"You may have the consolation to reflect May, you never said, or did a thing to wound the feelings, or lessen

ARMS

the regard that a parent should have for a child. You have not as yet made us any poorer, and your children are under such discipline, that they rather divert, than disturb, the peace of my house. Many thanks for the black handkerchief, and much love to all."

John Arms

An extract from a letter written to Rufus R. Graves, dated Conway, March 16, 1855:

"We are all in usual health. Your mother is now at Amherst to help her brother who is not so well. I have wintered very well; all things considered, and if you will make us an early visit, may live to see you again, together with all your children, which will be a great consolation to your father."

John Arms

The following letter was written to our grandmother at Amherst, where she was caring for her sick brother, Elijah Boltwood:

"April 1, 1855.

"Dear Wife,

"It went rather hard with me the week after you left, for the cold, or Influenza, so affected my stomach that I had

ARMS

not much rest day or night, for about a week, but am now so far recovered that I keep my bed all night. It is very fortunate for you and our brother, that you are so able to attend to his wants. Let every thing be done that can add to his comfort, without regard to cost. If he has any fear for the future, tell him the good Shepherd laid down His life for His sheep. For He tasted death for every man. . . .

"Elijah says it would be well to have more money for present use. If so, I can send you \$100, or any, more or less.

"Ever yours,

John Arms

Another letter to Rufus R. Graves, is dated May 3, 1855:

"The cutlery sold at 65 per cent discount. Dog cheap, and I have lost the money paid in! I should like to know if you was fool enough to throw your money away as I did. . . ."

The following letter was written by grandmother to Augustus Graves. It is undated.

ARMS

"Dear Augustus,

"I have delayed writing to you a number of days, hoping I might have something more favorable to write respecting your father's health. He has for about four weeks been growing gradually more unable to take food without its causing him great pain. Dr. Hamilton thinks he will not get about again. He is perfectly rational, and sensible of his situation! thinks he shall be no better.

"He expresses a desire to see his children. He says it is a long time since he has seen Martha and Cornelia. He wants them to come home if they can without great inconvenience, and stay until there is some change. Judith is here every day. She stayed and watched all night last night. He has had a very painful night.

"Mr. Burke is going down to New York next Tuesday. If Martha is well enough to come when he returns, and assist Cornelia to bring her children. (We would not urge it unreasonably. We will do all we can to make it as easy as we can for you when you get here.) We are all well as usual except your father,

"Your mother,

"Martha Arms."

We have a precious memorial of our grandfather in a letter written a short time before his death, by his daughter,

(Aunt Julia), to her husband, Dr. Dwight Ives :

“Sabbath Eve.

“My dear Husband ;

“Before you receive this, you will have heard through Elijah from father. He remained as comfortable as usual through the day you left, when he grew so weak that it was thought best I should watch with him, and Dorothy go to bed in the room. About Ten O'clock I helped him into the chair, when I saw that his head fell forward, and his arm hung lifeless by his side. I spoke to Dorothy, and in a moment we raised him up, and resting his head on Dorothy's arm, his breath stopped, and we thought him entirely gone.

“Pouring some ice water into my hand, I bathed his pale face, and he gasped, and sunk away again. We felt no doubt but that he had passed into the dark valley. I felt that we must hear his voice once more, and must know if he was passing through it alone. I called aloud ;

“‘Father, dear father, Do speak ! Do tell us if Jesus is with you !’ I repeated it, again and again.

“He then said, indistinctly, and faintly, ‘He does not forsake me. He does not forsake me !’

“Dorothy replied, ‘Father, He will not !’

“He then (while interrupted for want of breath) repeated very slowly, and impressively, the following lines :

*"When pale distress o'erspreads the face
And dismal fears of death take place
What then shall soothe the troubled breast
And give the awakened conscience rest?*

*"When life is to a period brought
And all its joys not worth a thought
What is it then can calm the soul
And what, our doubts and fears control?*

*"Not our sincerity of heart
Nor works, nor worth, can peace impart
At death, all these dissolve in air
Christ's worth alone, suffices there!"*

"(He then sang very sweetly, the remaining lines)

*"Christ's blood, and only His, can save
And make us conquerors o'er the grave
Thus when we pass through death's dark vale
In vain do doubts and fears assail—*

*"The Lord is with His people there
His Rod and Staff their comfort are
Oh! when to us these shades appear
May God, our Comforter be near!
Make strong our faith as life decays
And hush our dying lips to praise."*

"He then, opened his eyes and looking upon us, with such Heavenly sweetness that I could not but remark, 'Father, your face looks as Mr. Woodbury's did. The Saviour was with you!' To which he replied in a very characteristic manner, 'He never left me for an instant.'

"We then lifted him to the bed and gave him warm soda water. On drinking it he vomited a large quantity of blood, and was greatly relieved.

"He then drank wine, and ice milk, and as he took it, he said, 'Ho! every one that thirsteth. Come ye to the waters, Come buy milk and wine, without money and without price!' He sang different hymns, and was rational, and happy.

"I need not add, for you can anticipate, how thankful we all were, for the assurance granted us during this solemn scene, that our dear, suffering father would at death certainly be delivered from all his mental and physical maladies, and enter upon the rest of the people of God. I was inexpressibly glad that I went up with you, and was with him on that occasion of the trial of his faith in Christ. . . ."

John Arms died July 24, 1856.



Maple Green Conway Mass 1794.

The Old Conway Homestead

(MAPLE GREEN)

The house was built by our Grandfather, John Arms, in 1794.

It stands on the slope of a hill, and in early times, the stage road, or turnpike to Ashfield, ran by it. From the house for some distance, the road is shaded by Maples of Grandfather's planting, and three noble trees (still standing) grew on the lawn before the rude stone wall which ran across the front yard. A porch, covered by grapevines, shaded the front door, and rows of Hollyhocks grew on either side.

The house itself, was low and broad, two stories and an attic. On either side of the entrance hall, were the parlor, and "Grandma's room." The parlor, somewhat formal, with rushbottomed chairs, set stiffly around the wall. A long horsehair covered sofa on one side; the black mantel decorated with foreign shells, and glass candlesticks, and between the windows, a square stand, with two drawers, filled with daguerreotypes of the entire family. The carpet was made

of rags, yarn filling, in shades of crimson, Aunt Dorrie's handicraft, and seemed to our childish eyes, the most beautiful in the world.

Grandma's room, on the other side of the hall, was the family sitting room, with its open Franklin stove, comfortable chairs, and couch, and the bookcase and desk combined, in one corner. From this room, through a small passage way, you entered the West kitchen, used for cooking only in the winter, and in the summer for a bedroom.

Crossing the hall, and passing the door which led to the mysterious depths of the cellar, you entered the long dining room, somewhat dimly lighted by two windows on the north side, and one on the shaded porch, but always cheerful when the table was set with blue china, and spread with Aunt 'Dorrie's light biscuit, soft maple sugar, and gingerbread, such as one never tastes in these degenerate days.

Opening from the diningroom was Aunt Dorrie's little bedroom, added after the house was built, and made far too small, they said, but we children compared it to the "Prophet's little chamber," of which she often told us. The whole end of the diningroom was taken up by wooden cupboards, and next to the pantry, in the corner, the door opened into the great well-room.

Oh! The fascination of that room! Its raftered ceilings, hung with hams, and savory herbs. The enormous woodpile

at the rear, near the stove, and the old brick oven in the center, seldom used in our time. Along one side, ran Grandfather's work bench, with the tools in neat rows, on racks above it, and at the farther end, that wonderful vise, in which we would sometimes, surreptitiously, crack nuts.

Opposite, was the sink, and the old well with its wooden bucket, at one end of the short sweep, and on the other, a massive stone, fastened by a leather strap. How often have we watched that stone descend, and the bucket with its sparkling contents, rise, and standing on tiptoe, to look over the curb, saw the reflection of our own faces in the dark water below. Will anything ever taste so good as that deliciously cool water? Not until we drink of the *Water of Life*, in the *Heavenly City*, above!

But half the charms of the well-room have been told, and no mention made of the loft overhead, with its precious store of butternuts, and walnuts, and strings of dried apples, and more herbs.

But we must hurry back through the dining room, to go upstairs. We first pass through the door on the east side, and a small passage way to the piazza, also small, far too small for the large family, but delightful nevertheless, furnished with many chairs of the *May Flower* pattern, and on the top of the rude pillars, rude shelves, where every year the *Phœbe* birds made their nests.

Rough stone steps led down the bank, from under one of which, a large toad would come at evening, and catch flies in the twilight. Tradition had it that this toad was nearly a century old, yet no reverence for age prevented the two youngest grandchildren, called "the infants," from harnessing the venerable creature to a small tin wagon.

The bank was crowned with snow berry, and lilac bushes, and in a small bed at one side of the piazza, bloomed the loveliest pink moss roses, and phlox, and other old fashioned flowers.

But we must not linger outside, but passing again through the diningroom, open the door by the large cupboard, and find ourselves in the dim light of the back hall, fearfully glancing up the back stairs, crooked and steep, and set in the wall. Never did we go up or down those stairs in childhood, without a shivering dread of some mysterious danger lurking in the dark corners.

Nothing would persuade us to climb them now, so on we go, through the narrow hall, mounting the low front staircase, with its comfortable landing, reach the upper floor, and enter first the west chamber. Here, is a four post bedstead, with a wonderful knit spread, the work of one of the daughters.

The three windows are curtained with dimity, and on the wall hang watercolors, by the artist of the family. Joseph's

'Dream, with the elder brothers' sheaves bowing to the central one, all in glowing gamboge, and the Lady of the Lake, a symphony in blue.

Across the little hall, was the east chamber, always bright and cheerful, with an open fire, and a most wonderful table, the masterpiece of the daughters of the family. It was all decorated with small woodcuts and engravings, cut from magazines, with occasional scraps of poetry, and description, these, pasted carefully on the surface, and the whole varnished. A marvellous production.

A dark passage leads to the north chamber, with its two beds, then an open unfinished space, and a small room on the west side. Overhead, and reached by a rude unrailed staircase, the large attic, where were wonderful spinning wheels, old chests of drawers, and queer little hair covered trunks, decorated with brass nails. From these trunks came strange old fashioned gowns to dress up in on rainy days, and there were handboxes of mammoth size, covered with gaily flowered wall paper, which held immense poke bonnets of Leghorn and Tuscan straw, with faded roses still clinging to the inside brims.

Sometimes a cot was put up in this attic, but it has always been the marvel of this generation, how so large a family could have been lodged in a house with such scanty sleeping accomodations, especially when we remember the boundless

hospitality of our grandparents, and how not only transient guests were frequent, but relatives often made visits of months.

In this house were born fourteen children, of whom thirteen lived to grow up. The eldest, *Wealthy*, born in 1800, was the artist who painted the pictures described above. Handsome in her youth, and always "magerful" as *Barrie* calls it, she married *Robert Coffin*, a man of shy, shrinking nature, a teacher, with some reputation as a local poet. He was an earnest Christian, though never quite sure of his own salvation, until his last illness, when his faith rose triumphant.

Our latest memory of him is that one cloudy night when he was going home, a lantern was brought to him, and as he went out into the darkness, he said, "How dark the world would be without the light of JESUS!"

Wealthy Coffin had two daughters: *Emily* and *Ada*. *Emily* died young; *Ada* lived to be forty-three years of age, a woman of rare spiritual and intellectual attainments. The wife of a country minister, her life was one of devoted self sacrifice, in the smallest parishes, with no thought of the great gifts that fitted her to shine in what the world calls "higher places."

It has been said of her, "that she made the most uninteresting people, interesting," so that no sphere seemed to her small in which to work for God. Her conversation was brilliant; her changing expression full of rare beauty.

Her first book, "*A mind of my own, and a mind of Christ's*," was published when she was eighteen, the year of her marriage. She wrote several other Sunday School books, of which "*Christ's Cadets*," and "*Workers Together*," are the most important.


Ada has left with us the memory of one who rose absolutely superior to circumstances, making her own environment, and each life that she touched was drawn higher through her life.

Wealthy Arms Coffin died at the age of 87.

The year before her death she wrote to a niece:

"You may know from my crooked words and lines, that my eyesight does not improve. I paint a little, and read a great deal, and so am able to divert my mind in some measure from my infirmities. I have much, very much to be thankful for. My mercies are much more numerous than my afflictions."

ARMS




Dorothy Arms was born in 1802. "Aunt Dorrie" was the faithful daughter who cared for both her parents until the end.

The sweet, maiden aunt of our childhood, whose motherly heart embraced every one of us, whose busy hands never tired of making cookies and gingerbread for us, and whose name is the symbol of patient industry, and sweet serenity. "Dorothy," the gift of God, she surely was to the family, and for many years she did the work of the house almost unaided.

Dorothy Arms

Israel, born in 1804. A mere name to us, for he married early, and went to Michigan, then the far west, where he reared a family, and died in 1856.



Solomon, born 1805, was also one of the patient workers. An efficient helper for Aunt Dorrie. We remember him for his unfailing kindness, and his faith which grew brighter to the end of life.

We give the initials of his name, as he wrote them many years ago in the Birthday Book of his niece.

J. B. A.

Judith Arms (Aunt Burke) was born in 1807. Tall, and strikingly handsome, with brilliant black eyes and dark curly hair, with the rumour of an old romance about her. We remember her as an exquisite housekeeper. Will we ever forget the delicious tarts she used to make for us children? Her life was saddened by the loss of her two daughters, Ellen and Katie. In her later years she had a happy home in the family of her devoted son, Edmund, in Chicago, Ill.

Judith Burke had three sons, John, Charles, and Edmund.

We give extracts from some of her letters. The first, written, 1879, after the death of her sister, Mary J. Graves.

"It was grievous to me to be left to live the seventh decade of life, mourning for her, so young. It was hard to realize I should see her face no more in the flesh, but when I put on the black silk dress (it fits nicely) and

thought her fingers would never touch the velvet buttons again, it seemed like a precious gift from her, and that I would keep it just so, and wear it once in a while for her sake.

“So you may think of the old lady, in the dress, in a high back rocking chair, with little to say, but thinking of the stanza by Mrs. Barbauld, which Wordsworth wished he had written. I have it by heart.

“‘Life we have been long together
Through pleasant and through cloudy weather;
'Tis hard to part when friends are dear
Perhaps t'will cost a sigh, a tear;
Then steal away, Give little warning,
Take thine own time. Say not Goodnight!
But in some brighter clime, Bid me Good Morning!’

“Ned says he has a good mother, a good wife, and two good babies and that is riches. I dont praise the babies, I want you to see them. Little Louise trots all around, reminding me of a little Louisa of long ago, who trotted to me saying, ‘We are going a way in a teamboat. Aunt Dorrie will ’ty her eyes out.’

"The memories come to mind to cheer my old age, and lead me to say,

*"For all His mercies in the past,
I'll praise Him while my life shall last!
Above the rest this note shall swell,
My Jesus hath done all things well!"*

"I want you to have the pictures of my grandbabies, because I remember how your precious mother prayed for her grandchildren. So may you when looking at these, ask that they be kept in infinite love. . . ."

"I dont want you to forget me now in my old age. Your grandmother would get the bag of old letters, and read them again, and again, and so do I. . . ."

"The three grandbabies that talk plain, come to my room and kneel by me, shut their eyes, and clasp their hands, repeating the Lord's Prayer with me. I love them, though it may not be Grace that brings them there, but the promise of candy from Grandmother. I promised them a Fig if they would say it perfectly. The little boy, when half said, asked 'Will you give me a LARGE fig, Grandma?' Now, Dont you think that was too bad, and discouraging? I want to see Ada's book. . . ."

"Alice has a daughter, two week old next Friday; fat and strong, and the mother is just as well as ever. Her

mother is with her, and the Mothers-in-law live pleasantly, and the five grandbabies are smart. Louie, the oldest is only six next June. Alice has engaged an artist to paint Nos. 3 and 4. I will send them to you sometime. The babe is to be christened Ethel."

Judith A Burke

Judith Nash (Arms) Burke died in 1903, and is buried in the old Burying ground, Conway, Mass.

Julia A. Arms was born in 1809. She married, in the old homestead, the Rev. Dr. Dwight Ives, a very successful preacher and pastor.

In early life she was very pretty, vivacious, and tradition says, somewhat coquettish. She made an ideal minister's wife. Her husband's parish was in Suffield, Conn., where there is a large school for boys and girls, and she was especially beloved by these young people for her personal charm and ready sympathy. No daughters of her own lived to brighten it, but many daughters of others were welcome to her heart and home, and rose up to call her blessed. She had

three sons, John Howard, William Carey, and Charles Day, and a little daughter, who died young.

"Aunt Jule" had more than her share of the quick wit, and sanctified intelligence of the Arms family. She was a great, and discriminating reader, and also had the Arms trait, in her keen interest in current events.

For more than twenty years she was a widow, and lived with her son Charles, and his wife, in the old homestead. She saw aunt Dorrie and uncle Solly go before her, and cared for them to the end.

Julia Arms Ives died in the Conway Home, Feb. 22, 1898.

We give some extracts from "Aunt Jule's" letters.

"Last week Elijah had a letter from Lucius Boltwood, who you remember looked up the Genealogy of the Boltwood family. He wanted to know if there was a child born to Grandfather and grandmother Boltwood, besides mother, and Uncle Elijah Boltwood. . . .

"I had not seen the Family Record in the Boltwood Bible since I looked it up for Solly, when he wanted to give Gussie, Uncle Solomon Boltwood's watch, but I told Elijah that I would get the Bible for him. I went right up to the library in the back upper hall, but no Bible of the Boltwood family was there, nor could it be found anywhere.

"Julie says she saw it on Lou's table. It is possible that she has it. If so, the information must be sought through her." (It is only necessary to add that the Boltwood Bible is in safe and secure keeping, and has been of great service in our Boltwood researches).

"... How glad I am this good old place grows wood, and that we don't have to depend on coal the strikers get for us. Charles does not plant trees, but he never cuts one down that plants itself. I would like to show you the trees that have sprung up of themselves about these premises. . . ."

"This is Solly's birthday, Oct 6, 1875. Meta has brought him some flowers, just as Ada used to. He is diverted and pleased to see them. His mind is so trustful, that it comforts me. He said the other day, that 'the Lord's Prayer was so good,' he 'wondered we did not press it to our bosoms and hug it!' Was it not an original thought? . . ."

"Tomorrow, the 5th of April, is the anniversary of my marriage. How full of mercy and goodness, does my long life seem to me! and now the Comforter has come to me, and blessed me with His presence, which is better than life! It is His will that I live on; I know I want nothing more than to love His holy will, in all things that come to me! I am so thankful that on this very morning, we are all so comfortably well.

"Pixie (a Pug dog) was sick in the night, but nothing serious. I love him as much as ever. So I do Prince. I often hear him nights when all the rest are asleep; when wakeful, I get around to my west window and look at the stars, the work of my Father's hands. They look beautiful to me. . . ."

"We live along not knowing what a day may bring forth, but trusting in the mercy of the Lord, which endureth forever. . . ."

" . . . I was very glad to hear from Martha, and Sister Burke. How merciful and strange it is, that we should jog down this decline so long together! How soon we shall all get together again!"

" . . . Julie is always good to me. If I ever think or say she is not, it will be when I lose my reason, or when the sun and moon stand still! And Charles, I do not forget. He is the best of sons. No mother ever had a better son. . . ."

"Uncle Lige has just come in—Annie (the servant girl) was studying her S. S. lesson, and asked him if he ever felt like The Prodigal son? 'No,' he said 'for I never mean to leave my Father's house!'

"I could not wish for a kinder brother than he is!"

" . . . I said to Julie the other day, 'Ah me! How will it seem to be where you cant worry, and cant sin?'

ARMS

She replied, 'I think we should know we were in Heaven.'

"Aunt Dorrie has'ent been well. She was quite feeble for some days. The first time she went out to the 'Camp,' to look after the milk, when we were coming in, the sun was setting in the west. The chip yard looked so clean, and green, I said, 'How nice, and pleasant it looks!'

"She said, 'Yes; all very pleasant, but I wish not to stay!'

"I know you love to hear about her, so I will write a little more; Yesterday, she came in saying, 'I am all broke to pieces!'

"'Well, What now?'

"'Why, I've come across a pair of stockings for Solly, I entirely forgot that I had ever knit them.'

"I said, 'Some one said that a piece of you is better than the whole of some folks!'

"This forgetfulness of her good and useful works for others, extends over more background than a few weeks, it reaches as far back as to cover over, her long, remarkably useful life."

Julia A. Ives

Julia Arms Ives died 1898, and is buried in the old burying-ground, in Conway.

ARMS

John Arms was born in 1811. Only a name to us, for he died in early manhood, but remembered fondly by mother (Mary J. Graves) for his sweet disposition, and scholarly tastes.

Martha Arms, born in 1813, was a woman of fine intellect, and of great energy, and capability. She married Horatio Nelson Graves, and had five children, four of whom lived to adult life. Left a widow, when all of them were young, she bravely faced adverse conditions for many years, educated her children, and lived a useful, and cheerful life, keeping her faith and courage through sore trials, even down to old age.

Her children were Mattie L., Edward, Robert, James, Taylor, and John M.

Aunt Martha's only daughter, "Cousin Mattie," was of a gentle, social nature, gifted with the power of making and keeping many friends. The tie between mother and daughter was very strong. They were seldom separated throughout the many years in which they lived together.

In early life, Mattie was an invalid, requiring the constant care of her devoted mother, and it was touching to notice in later years, how the circumstances were reversed,

and the daughter gave her time and strength to the cheer and comfort of her feeble mother. When at last the companionship was severed here, it was not for long, and after only a year's loneliness, Mattie followed her mother, to the Heavenly Home.

The following extracts are taken from some letters written by Martha Arms Graves.

" . . . 1896—Mattie is engaged on her paper for the Club, and I take great interest in it, for I am an Optimist, and think the world is growing better. I have read a good book that Alice sent me, with great interest, 'Beggars All,' and we do all look to each other for help.

"I have been to church every Sabbath, and every Sabbath Dr. Gonsaulus gives us something new about 'This Jesus, the Nazarene,' and with Faber, I am led to say,

"'Forgive me if for love I say,

Thy sacred Name, a thousand times a day.'"

" . . . I have read several of George MacDonald's books. A friend called yesterday, and I told her what I was reading. She replied, 'I am a blue Presbyterian!' I held my tongue, and did not say what I wished, 'It's better to be a Christian!' God moves in a mysterious way in the spiritual world, and His way is a good way. . . ."

" . . . John says, you want to see the old face, as it looks now, with its close shut mouth, that talks but little,

for it has long since learned, that it is the easiest thing in the world to be mistaken. . . .

"There are very few things that I am sure of, and one is that God loves ME, as Prof. Swing said. 'With God and His word, one cannot be lonely. It is nice to let God into the secret corners where none else can go.' I send her with this letter; you must pray for and pity the old lady's infirmities, when you see her. Robert has gained a scholarship, which is \$90. He never knew it, till he saw it in the paper. It was unexpected. . . ."

"We have just had a letter from H. Fletcher of Townshend. You know her father, and my husband were dear friends. She well remembers a sermon that Mr. Graves preached when she was nine years old. She writes, 'No one has ever made his place good.' While writing our pastor called. I told him I was writing Mrs. Graves. He said, 'Give my love to her. I have heard much of the good Mr. Graves did here.'"

"It is very pleasant to have my children hear such testimony. . . ."

M. A. Graves

Martha Arms Graves died in Chicago, May 20, 1901.

ARMS

Elijah Boltwood Arms, born 1815, and still with us, having a most interesting, and versatile mind, at the age of 89. He never married, but has been the dear uncle to countless children both inside, and outside the family.

He took the Chautauqua Course, and graduated when he was over 80 years of age, and at 87, learned to perfection the Raffia Art (basket weaving). For years, under his personal care, the old fashioned garden, back of the homestead, has flourished, producing vegetables and flowers for family, and neighbors.

This is one of his characteristic letters:

“Conway, Mass., Sept. 1903.

“Your third good letter to me, none of which have had a reply from me, is at hand. I have read the little books, and given two to the Doctor. I still read Rose Hawthorne Lathrop's *Memories of her father*. Her own letters speak well for herself, as to literature, and sound thinking.

“Yesterday forenoon, I read ‘*The Examiner*’ all through, which left my mind hazy, so I went out in the garden, to work it off. I loosened the roots around cabbages that were bursting, and smelt the Tube Rose that Mrs. Nims gave me, but the best of the going to me, was the fall of the wagon ladder, one side, striking on my head, when Lo! and Behold! instead of pain, it felt good. And so, all

through the garden the haziness brought on by 'The Examiner' was all gone.

"Affectionately,

"Uncle Lige.

"P. S. You seem to want something about me, and I have tried to give it you Lest my letter should be wholly worthless, let me give you something not so original.

"P. P. S.

"When fish are not on your line,
Dont sit down and begin to whine;
Tell the world, you're feeling fine,
And keep a doing.

"That letter 'a' may as well be left out. The old Greek Bible dont put in those little articles. . . ."

Elijah B. Arms

Catharine Arms, born 1816. She lived but 26 years, dying after a long and painful illness, patiently borne to the end.

Her sister Judith (Mrs. Burke) writes of her—1883:

"I stood with your uncle Ives, by your aunt Katie, when she was dying. He said to her, 'Can you think?'


"She said, 'Yes, my mind is clear.'

"He asked, 'What do you think, 'Dear?'

ARMS


*"She replied, with an effort that caused her suffering,
'He that endureth to the end shall be saved.'*

*"She, who has long since gone, still speaks back to me.
She said we must talk of her, when together. So you see,
if we die young, or live to be old, like me we dont want
those we love to forget us. . . ."*



*Mary J. Arms, born in 1818. She married in 1839,
Rufus R. Graves.*

*Her life (written more fully elsewhere) was one of entire
self-forgetfulness, devoted to her family, closing with years of
suffering, patiently borne, with a happy submission to the
Will of God, which never was a burden, but a joy to her.
She died July 26, 1879.*



Edward Arms, born in 1819, lived but a few months.

*Cornelia J. Arms, born in 1820. Still with us, Thank
God! Her native wit, and humor, bright as in her youth.*

ARMS

Her sweet patience with the infirmities of age, a lesson to us all.

She married E. Augustus Graves in 1845, and has lived to see children, and great-grandchildren. The story of her life is more fully told, elsewhere. Died Jan. 11 '97

Caroline Augusta Arms, born 1822. Died in 1845, aged 22.

She died of a lingering illness. She was remarkably beautiful, and sweet in disposition. We remember Aunt Burke telling us, what a picture she made lying in bed, with her dark curls spread out on the pillow, her bright eyes, and vivid color.


The old home has witnessed sixteen births, nine weddings, and thirteen funerals.

We close these Memories of the dear old house with these words of our Grandfather Arms, its builder:


"I hope that the Farm will be turned out to grass when it ceases to be a place for the homeless and friendless."

Certainly this hospitable wish has been fulfilled to the utmost, by the present inmates of the home.





Third Great-Grandfather-



Burial-Place of Our Great
Consider Arms
And

Conway, Mass.

Buying Ground
Old Deerfield
Headstones of Our

Third Great-Grandfather - W^m Arms

Second Great-Grandfather
Daniel Arms

Burial-Place of Our Great-Grandfather
Consider Arms

And Of Our

Conway, Mass.

Grandfather - John Arms

PART TWO

The Genealogies of
Our Arms Grandmothers

Joanna Hawkes

Wife of William Arms.

John Hakes—*We first hear of John Hakes in Windsor, Conn., (where the name is found as Hakes) and where in 1640 he had a lot granted him. His five sons and five daughters were all born in Windsor.*
 Joanna Hawkes—
 Daniel Arms—
 Consider Arms—
 John Arms—
 Martha Arms—
 There, he probably married his wife, Elizabeth ———. He removed to Hadley in 1660, having given his home at Windsor to one of his daughters. His name is on the list of "Engagers" to settle in Hadley, on that memorable paper signed in Hartford, in 1659. He lived but two years after his removal to Hadley, and was buried in the old burying ground there, June 30, 1662.

John Hakes was our fourth Great-grandfather.

HAWKES

*Joanna, daughter of John, and Elizabeth ———
Hakes, was born Feb. 8, 1654.*

*She married William Arms of Deerfield, Nov. 21,
1677.*

They had nine children.

Joanna Hawkes Arms died Nov. 22, 1729, aged 76.

She was our third Great-grandmother.

Judith Stoughton Smead

*Great-Grandmother of Esther Smead
Wife of Daniel Arms*

Judith Stoughton Smead—In one of our evening papers, William Smead— published in the 20th Century, we read Ebenezer Smead— one night with great interest, the following: “Sailed from Gravesend, England, Esther Smead— Sept. 3, 1635, on ship ‘Dorset,’ (Capt. Consider Arms— John Flower) via Bermudas, for Boston, John Arms— Mass., Martha Arms— Widow Judith Smead, with her three children. . . .” The only one of our Grandmothers to venture alone across the great ocean, we place her at the head of the Smead family, for the reason that her husband died in England, and his surname is unknown, and that although Judith was a sister of the well-known Capt. Israel Stoughton, “one of the rulers of Connecticut,” we have but one trace of the Stoughton family. That Israel Stoughton, in his Will, dated 1644 (made on his return to England to join the Parliamentary army) makes provision

SMEAD

for his mother, "then residing in his family." She was our Grandmother Stoughton, but that is all we know of her.

Judith Stoughton Smead lived but four years after her long, lonely voyage to this country. Her name is recorded in Dorchester, in 1636, when she owned land there, but she died in Salem, Mass., in 1639.

Judith Stoughton Smead was our fifth Great-grand-mother.

THE WILL AND INVENTORY OF
JUDITH STOUGHTON SMEAD

Roger Clap, and two others, were appointed to examine the Inventory concerning Mrs. Judith Smead's estate. They found the balance of whole estate after paying debts to be 85 Pounds, 7 Shillings, 11 and one half pence, to be divided among three children. William Smead's pt is 35 Pounds 6 Shillings. The Inventory was taken the 18th day of the 3d month, 1639.

"MYSELFE had as followeth: (various utensils, household goods and produce mentioned). A tub to sister Clarke. A vylett coat to Goodman Oldredge. 5 Doenig Curtains to Sumner. Pd Goodman Pope with the boy, 32 Pounds." Articles to the amount of 8 Pounds, 15 shillings, and 10 pence, are "given as things I know not who had, as they are still in being. . . ."

"Debts paid by me on my sister's account. . . ."

Signed "Judith Stoughton Smead."

Later Information in Regard to the
Stoughton Family

Thomas Stoughton, our sixth Great-grandfather, father
Judith Stoughton— of Judith Stoughton Smead, was installed
William Smead— Rector of Coggeshall, Essex County, Eng-
Ebenezer Smead— land, Dec. 12, 1600.
Esther Smead— Judith's brother, Israel Stoughton,
Consider Arms— preceded her to Dorchester, having gone
John Arms— there in 1630, and obtained a large grant
Martha Arms — of land. He was a Colonel, and a friend
of Gov. Winthrop. And the position he
occupied in the affairs of the Colony, point him out as a man
of superior intelligence, and large property.

Judith, our Grandmother, joined the church at Dor-
chester in 1636, and had 20 acres of land granted her there
in 1638. Her property was afterward sold to her nephew,
William Stoughton, who was first Chief Justice of Massachu-
setts, and afterward Lieut. Governor. He was a graduate of
Harvard College, and erected Stoughton Hall, which stood for

100 years. The only blot on his name is the part he took in the tragedy of Salem, in 1692. He signed the death-warrants, in the terrible Witchcraft tragedies, and sealed them with the private arms of Stoughton.

William, son of Judith, and ——— Smead, was born in England, but a short time before his mother sailed for America, in 1635. He was only four years old when his mother's death left him alone in the world. He was put in Dorchester under the care of a man named John Pope, who, dying when William was 11 years old, left by will—"unto William Smead, my Little boy, my Loomes, and such tacklings as do belong unto them; which is too vallew of 3 Pounds, provided he be willing to dwell with my wife after his time is out; also provided he be willing to Learn my Trad, and that there be a comfortable agreement mad between them afterward."

How much William was benefitted by this conditional bequest does not appear, but he is found in Northampton, where he was made freeman, in 1660. Here, in 1659, he paid 10 shillings for 8 acres of land, for a homelot, where he built the house that was burned by Indians in 1675.

THE STORY OF THE BURNING OF WILLIAM
SMEAD'S HOUSE.

After the murderous attack on Springfield, in 1675, and the burning of 30 or more houses there, a large body of Indians, some seven or eight hundred, pushed up the river to Hatfield, where after a two hours fight, they were scattered and defeated by the English under Capt. Appleton.

A few days after this Hatfield fight, a number of Indians, probably stragglers from the horde that had invaded that town, suddenly appeared near Northampton. They attacked some men who were venturing to gather their harvest from Pyncheon's meadow. They had no sentinels, but had posted their weapons at some convenient point. The Indians, who doubtless had been watching them, seized their guns and endeavored to surround the party, but the English, freeing their horses from the carts, mounted them, and fled to Northampton.

The Indians pursued them right into the town, entered South Street and burned several houses and barns. Most of this property belonged to our ancestors. William Smead's home was destroyed, and he, like our Graves grandfather, Preserved Clap, lost nearly all his possessions, and was for a time dependent upon the kindness of his neighbors.

In 1676, William Smead received a grant of land from

SMEAD-STOUGHTON

the town of Northampton, on account of the burning of his house by Indians, in 1675. William Smead was with Turner in the Falls Fight, May 19, 1676.

He married, Dec. 31, 1658, Elizabeth, daughter of Thomas Lawrence.

In 1674, he bought land, and built a house at Deerfield, where he was much respected, and elected townsman for many years. He is the ancestor of all of the name in this country. He was spared the sorrow of living until the raid upon Deerfield in 1704, in which his wife and so many of his family were swept away.

William Smead died early in 1704. He is buried in the same lot with William Arms, in Deerfield.

He was our fourth Great-grandfather.

Ebenezer, son of William and Elizabeth Lawrence Smead, was baptized May 9, 1675. He married in 1694, Esther, daughter of John Catlin, 2d.

He lived in Deerfield, being three times chosen Moderator of the Town meetings, and eight times Selectman. He was a Lieutenant, and on a committee to survey the town of Deerfield, to "get an accurate plan of said township, to lay

SMEAD-STOUGHTON

before the Gen. Court as soon as may be." He was also on the school committee, and constable, always a position of honor in those days.

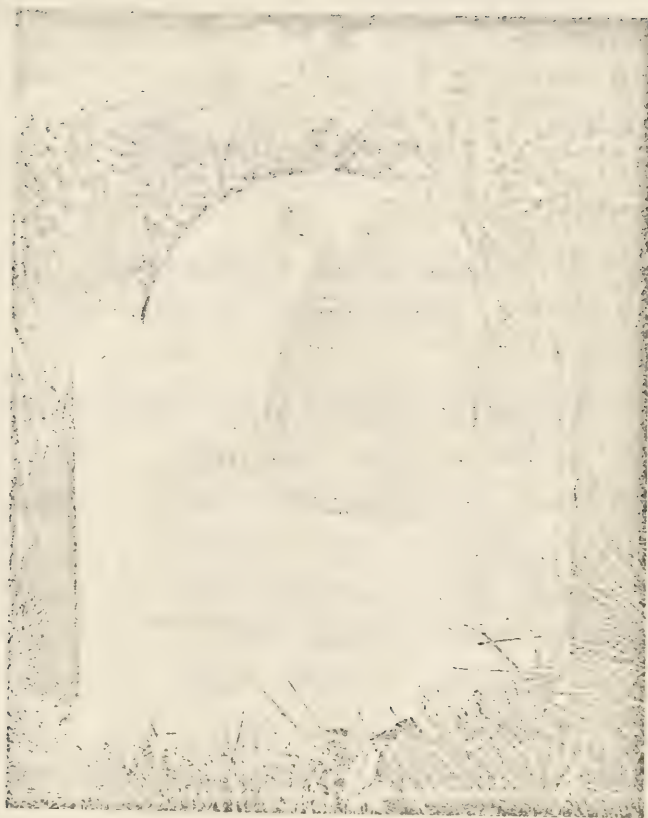
Ebenezer Smead died July 19, 1753.

He was our third Great-grandfather.

Esther Smead, our great-great-grandmother, daughter of Ebenezer and Esther Catlin Smead, was born Oct. 18, 1696. She lived but forty years. A life full of sorrow. Her grandfather, on her mother's side was burned in the Deerfield massacre, and her grandmother on her father's side, was slain in it. At this time Esther was eight years old, and her childish mind must have been filled with Indian horrors.

She married, Dec, 4, 1716, Daniel Arms, and of her eleven children, five died in their early childhood.

Esther Smead Arms died in the Deerfield Arms homestead, Dec. 17, 1736, only about a month after her son Consider's birth.



Headstone Of Our Great-Great-Grandmother
Esther Smead
Deerfield Burying-Ground

Elizabeth Lawrence

Grandmother of Esther Smead

Wife of Daniel Arms

Thomas Lawrence was a proprietor of Hingham, in 1637.
Elizabeth Lawrence— The next year he became “lawful
Ebenezer Smead— owner of 400 acres of land bounded
Esther Smead— westward with cedar swamp, and east-
Consider Arms— ward with the land of Thomas Clap.”
John Arms— He married Eliza, daughter of
Martha Arms— James Bates of Dorchester.

He died in Hingham, Nov. 5,
1655, and his widow soon after removed with her family to
Dorchester.

Thomas Lawrence was our fifth great-grandfather.

Elizabeth, daughter of Thomas and Eliza Bates Lawrence,
was born in Dorchester, soon after her father's death,
and there married, Dec. 31, 1658, William Smead.

LAWRENCE

They had six daughters and four sons.

Her oldest child (his father's namesake) was killed at Bloody Brook, with Capt. Lothrop. Her daughter Judith's marriage was the first recorded on the Deerfield town records.

Elizabeth's husband, William Smead, died just before the terrible assault of the French and Indians upon Deerfield, Feb. 29, 1704. When the enemy attacked her home, she with her daughter-in-law and two grandchildren fled for refuge into the cellar, and were burned to death by the savages. A fearful death, but had she survived, she would have been plunged into great sorrow, for her three daughters, Mehitable, Thankful and Waitstill, were taken captive, and killed on that fearful march to Canada.

Elizabeth Lawrence Smead, was our fourth Great-grandmother.

Eliza Bates

Great-grandmother of Esther Smead

Wife of Daniel Arms

<p>James Bate, or Bates, having the title of "Mr." pre- Eliza Bates— Elizabeth Lawrence— Ebenezer Smead— Esther Smead— Consider Arms— John Arms—</p>	<p>fixed to his name, sailed in the "Elizabeth," with Capt. Slagg from England, in April, 1635. (The same ship bore some of our Graves ancestors). With him were his wife, Alice, his daughter Eliza, and other children.</p>
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Martha Arms— He is styled in the list of passengers, "Husbandman." He was born in 1582. Joined the church in 1636. Was made Freeman the same year, and elected Selectman of Dorchester for several years. He represented Hingham in 1641. By his Will, he left Mr. Mather (pastor) 20 Pounds.

He died in 1655.

James Bate was our sixth Great-grandfather.

THE WILL OF JAMES BATE

“James Bate, elder, of Dorchester, in New England, 22d day of the 9th month, called Nov. 1665, give unto my sonne, Mr. Richard Bate, of Lid Towne, of Kent, in old England, all my lands, movable goods, and debts that I now may have, in old or New England, to be disposed of by him, according to his discretion, yet desirous that he would tend unto such directions, thereabout, as I shall send in writing, unless I shall see ground and reason to alter the said directions in any of the particulars thereof. Said sonne whome I have always found faithful; My sole executor.

“Subscribed, as well as he in the want of bodily sight could write.

“ James Bate.”

“Roger Clap (our Graves ancestor) aged 46, or thereabouts saith he being with Mr. James Bate, to visit him in his sickness, he entreated him to take some witness with himself, that it was his will his daughter Gibson, have tenn pounds, for hir owne use, at hir disposing, not to hir husband’s. The said Roger Clap said to Mr. Bate ‘if you have any

BATES

written will, it must be added thereto.' ” Mr. Bate replied with earnestness that he would have it done. But, evidently it was neglected, for after his death Roger Clap and his brother Edward, our Arms ancestor, took their oath to the truth of the testimony, before Gov. Endicott. James Bate must have been a man of means, for he left his grandchildren 100 Pounds apiece, “when one and twenty yeares of age.”

Eliza, daughter of James and Alice ——— Bates, was born in England, about 1615. She lived in Dorchester and Hingham. In the latter place she married Thomas Lawrence. After his death, she returned to Dorchester.

Eliza Bates was our fifth Great-grandmother.

Esther Catlin Smead

Mother of Esther Smead

Wife of Daniel Arms

John Catlin— Esther Catlin, daughter of John and
John Catlin— Mary Baldwin Catlin, was probably
Esther Catlin— born in Newark, N. J. She was older
Esther Smead— than her brave brother Joseph, also
Consider Arms— our ancestor. She married in 1694,
John Arms— Ebenezer Smead, and lived in Deer-
Martha Arms— field, where in 1704, she lost her
father, two sisters, and two brothers
in the terrible massacre. A brother and sister were taken
captive to Canada, and her mother lived but a few weeks after.

Esther Catlin Smead was the mother of ten children.

She died Dec. 12, 1733.

She was our third Great-grandmother.

The Baldwin, and Catlin lines, are traced in connection
with our Great-grandmother, Mercy Catlin.

John Catling

Great-great-grandfather of Mercy Catlin

Wife of Consider Arms

*Sir Robert Catlin was granted a coat of arms, as an
John Cattell-Catling— honorable testimony of his gallantry at
John Catlin— the battle of Agincourt, under Edward
Joseph Catlin— the Black Prince. It is said the family
John Catlin— has been located at Newington, County
Mercy Catlin— Kent, England, ever since the Norman
John Arms— conquest. Reginald De Catlyn, a fol-
Martha Arms— lower of William the Conqueror, is
mentioned in Domes Day Book, as
having two Knight's fees lands in the County of Kent.*

John Catling, our fifth Great-grandfather, and emigrant ancestor, is first mentioned as a Wethersfield settler, about 1640. His name is there written Cattell. He was one of

CATLIN

the "Engagers" to go to Hadley, in 1659, but for some reason did not remove there. He married Isabella, probably a sister of Lawrence Ward, of Newark, N. J., where he died in 1670.

John Catlin, son of John, and Isabella (Ward?) Catlin, was born about 1643, probably at Wethersfield. He was living at Branford, Conn., when the liberal "concessions and agreements of the Lords Proprietors of Nova Cæsarea (New Jersey) to and with all of the adventurers, and all such as shall settle and plant there," were circulated in New England, and he was the first, and only one of our early ancestors to emigrate from New England, and he became one of the founders of Newark, N. J.

For this reason we give a short sketch of the settlement of that city.

NEWARK, NEW JERSEY

"At this period Connecticut was divided into two colonies, Connecticut, and New Haven. Within the limits of the latter (and the less prosperous of the two) were New Haven proper, Milford, Branford, and two other towns. The restoration of kingly rule in the mother country, together with the unification of the two colonies under Royal Charter, caused a most disturbing effect on the colonists. At least on a considerable portion, as the charter was obtained without their knowledge, so they brought themselves to acknowledge the government of Charles 2d, with reluctance, and scarcely before the ink was dry, certifying their allegiance to the English King, the leading spirits in the New Haven colony, began to think of looking for some new abiding place where they would not be ruled contrary to their customs and desires.

"In 1664, the Duke of York transferred to Lord John Berkeley, and Sir George Carteret (two English courtiers) that portion of land which now constitutes the goodly state of New Jersey. Immediately upon their acquisition of title, these Lord proprietors signed the constitution called 'Concessions,' mentioned above. They were a guarantee of liberal encouragement to settlers. Lord Carteret had these 'Concessions' published in New England, to induce planters to come and

CATLIN

settle in New Jersey, and they found willing ears in Milford, and Branford.

"A Committee was sent out to view the land, and a site selected on the Passaic river. Twenty-three heads of Branford families signified their willingness to form the town union proposed. They accordingly signed the following document. (John Catlin was the eleventh signer).

"*At a meeting touching the intended design of the many inhabitants of Branford, the following was subscribed, May 24, 1666.*

"*Deut. 1. 13— 1st. that none should be admitted freeman*

"*Ex. 18. 21— or free burgesses within our town upon*

"*Deut. 17. 15— Passaic river, in the province of New Jersey, but such planters as are members of some or other of the Congregational churches, nor shall any but such, be chosen to any magistracy or to carry any part of said civil judicature, or as deputies or assistants to have power to vote in establishing laws, or as deputies or assistants to have power to vote in any such election, though all others admitted to be planters have right to their proper inheritance, and do and shall enjoy all other civil liberties, and privileges, according to all laws, orders, grants, which are, or hereafter shall be made for this town.*

"*Second. We shall with Care and Diligence provide*

for the maintenance of the purity of Religion professed in the Congregational churches, whereunto subscribe the inhabitants of Branford.'

"It must have required the courage of stout hearts, and strong heads, to tear up the roots of a generation or more, and move off anew into the unknown, and untried wilderness, there to begin again the battle of life, but the men of 1666, like those of 1776, were men indeed, fit stock for pioneers.

"To the high credit of the forefathers of Newark, and as strong proof of their innate love of honor, justice, and fair dealing, be it said that they, of their own resources, fully satisfied the demands of the Indians. They purchased a title direct, from the Aboriginal owners. All this vast extent of city territory, and nearly the whole of the County of Essex cost the settlers goods valued at \$750 U. S. money.

"Newark is written New-Worke, in the Old Town Book, still preserved. It was named from the English home of the first minister, Rev. Abraham Pierson, 'Newark-on-Trent.' Founded about 1105. In a royal castle there, known as the 'New Worke,' died King John.

"From the very first the Newark settlers seemed to have fully appreciated the benefits of education. In 1676, 17 years

CATLIN

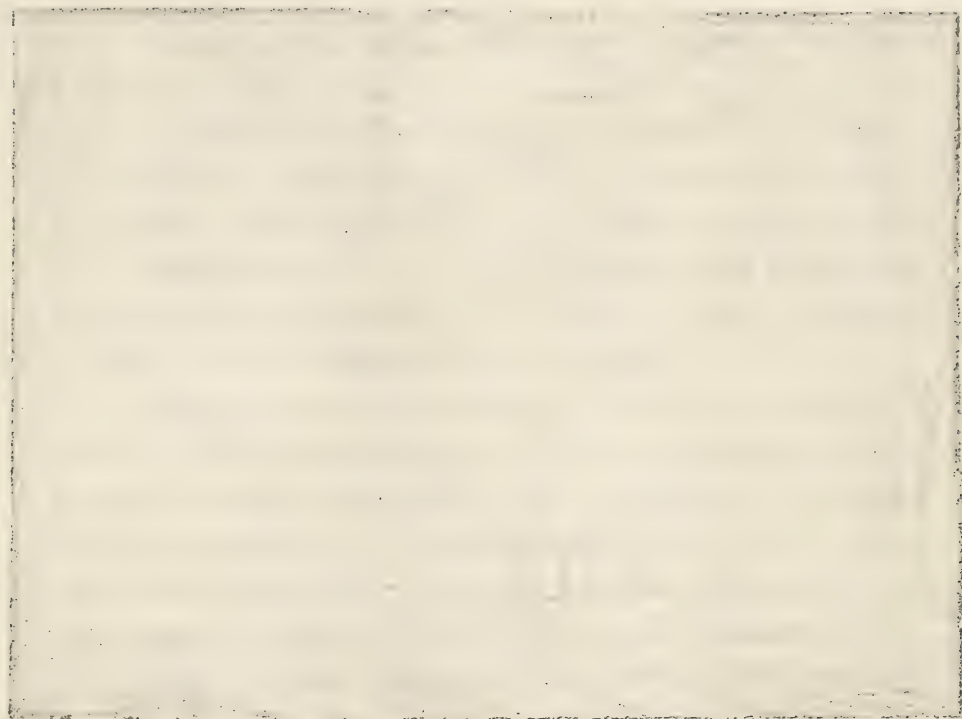
before the Provincial Assembly enacted any law on the subject of education, the schoolmaster was abroad in Newark. (Our) John Catlin was appointed to the office, and was required by the order of the town 'to do his faithful, honest, and true endeavor, to teach the Children and servants of those as have subscribed, the reading and writing of English, and also Arithmetick, if they desire it, as much as they are capable to learn, and he capable to teach them, within the compass of this year.' "

—From Atkinson's History of Newark.

In 1678, John Catlin was Towns Attorney (not lawyer) "an honest brother to take care that all town orders be executed, and if a breach occurs, to punish the offenders." He was Select Man from 1676-81.

There is preserved in Yale College, as a memorial of its first President, Abraham Pierson, his antique chair, which without doubt is "the one great wainscot chair" conveyed to him by John Catlin, and John Ward; administrators of Dea. Lawrence Ward's estate.

John Catlin's love for his native New England soil did not leave him, and after remaining a Jersey-ite for about 14 years, he removed to Hartford, where he was in 1683, and soon after went to Deerfield as one of the early permanent



The Old Street—
Deerfield, Mass.

CATLIN

settlers where he was dignified by the title of "Mr." and took a prominent part in affairs.

He was chosen Select Man, and moderator of the town meetings, for six years.

In 1696, the Town Records say: "It was voted that there shall be 5 men chosen, as seaters, to seat—that is to say, to determine where every person to be seated shall sit in the new meeting-house. . . ." Dea. Sheldon, Mr. John Catlin, voted to be 2 of the 5. . . . "That ye rules for seating a person, shall be Age, State, and Dignity."

His home was on Lot No. 29, on the old Deerfield Street. This lot was divided up for three homesteads. One of these is what is called the "Old Frary house," the oldest house in Deerfield, now occupied by Alice Baker. The second was a tavern for some time, and the third homestead was bought in 1685, by John Catlin, (from Sampson Frary).

Here, a terrible tragedy took place, for no family suffered more than his at the desolation of the town of Deerfield, in 1704. His buildings were all burned, and himself and one son consumed with them. Another son and three daughters were captured, and taken to Canada. Two of the daughters were killed on the march, and his son Joseph was killed in the Meadow Fight, Feb. 29, 1704.

John Catlin married at Wethersfield, Sept. 23, 1662, Mary Baldwin, daughter of Joseph Baldwin, of Milford.

CATLIN

He was our fourth Great-grandfather.

His name is on one of the marble tablets, on the wall of the Memorial Hall, at Old Deerfield, Mass.

Joseph Catlin, son of John and Mary Baldwin Catlin

The record of his birth is lost. He married June 26, 1701, Hannah, daughter of Ensign John Sheldon. Joseph Catlin was one of the seven brave men who defended the Benoni Stebbins' house, in the fearful Deerfield massacre of 1704.

An interesting account of this is found in an old manuscript, discovered among Gov. John Winthrop's papers. It was probably an official report by an officer of the Troop that came up on the alarm. It is carefully drawn up, and must have been prepared on the spot.

"One house, Benoni Stebbins, they attack later than some others so that those in it, were well awakened, being 7 men besides women and children who stood stoutly to their arms, firing upon the enemy, and the enemy upon them, causing several of the enemy to fall, of which was one Frenchman, a Gentleman to appearance. The enemy gave

back, they strove to fire the house. Our men killed 3 or 4 Indians in their attempt.

“The enemy being numerous about the house powdered much shot upon it. The walls, being filled up with brick, the force of the shot was repelled, yet they killed a man, and wounded 1 man, and 1 woman, of which the surgeons made no discovery to the assailants, but with more than ordinary courage kept firing, having powder and ball sufficient in said house.

“The enemy betook themselves to the next house, Ensign John Sheldon’s, but about 8 rods distant. Our men yet plied their business, accepting, of no quarter though offered by the enemy, but by guns giving little or no respite from the time they began. (some of the men in the house shot 40 times, and had fair shots at the enemy all the while). About an hour before day, till the sun about 1 hour and half high, at which time they were almost spent. Yet at the very pinch, ready to yield, our men from Hadley and Hatfield, about 30, rushed in upon the enemy and made shot upon them, at which they quit assailing the house, and the fort also. The house at liberty, women and children ran to Capt. Wells, his fort.

THE MEADOW FIGHT

"The men with ours, still pursued the enemy, all of them vigorously causing many of the enemy to fall. Yet being but about 40 men, they pursued too far, imprudently (not altogether for want of conduct, for Capt. Wells who led them called for a retreat, which they little minded) the enemy discovering their number, having ambushments of men, caused our men to give back, though too late, being a mile from the fort, and 9 were killed." Joseph Catlin was one of the nine.

Joseph Catlin was our third Great-grandfather.

In all the wars of New England, there is not a more gallant act recorded than the defense of an unfortified house by seven men and a few women, for three hours, against not only the fury and wiles of an unorganized horde of savages, but also a large force of French soldiers under officers of the line, trained in the wars of France. The check received here by the enemy, probably tended to stay the tide of devastation, and so saved the south part of the town.

We cannot conceive of the horrors of that fearful night. Our brave ancestors, Joseph and Hannah Stebbins Catlin, with their two year old baby, were living with Han-

PART OF THE
 OLD HOUSE MOVED
 TO THE
 NEW HOUSE BUILDING
 IT SHOWS PART OF THE
 REMOVAL TO THE STREET FOR
 THE NEW HOUSE
 ITS FOUNDATION
 WAS KEPT
 THE FOUNDATION
 IS THE SAME IN THE NEW HOUSE
 WHERE THE FOUNTAIN
 STILL STANDS
 THAT PLACE

THE LATTER PART OF THE HOUSE
 SHOWS THE NEW HOUSE
 '7 MEN BUILDING' AND 'BUILDING'
 AGAINST THE HOUSE OF THE BUILDING
 AND THE HOUSE OF THE BUILDING
 UNTIL THE HOUSE OF THE BUILDING

SHOWS THE HOUSE OF THE BUILDING
 THE HOUSE OF THE BUILDING

nah's uncle, Benoni Stebbins. Possibly Joseph Catlin was one of the soldiers detailed to care for the house.

They must have been in an agony of fear for their parents, whose homes near by were being attacked by the savages, and while they were defending the Stebbins' home, Joseph's father and brother were losing their lives, in the flames of their homestead, and Hannah's mother and little sister Mercy were barbarously slain in the Old Indian House, while in a few more hours, most of their neighbors and relatives that were left, were carried captive to Canada, or slain by the way.

The rain was falling when we last passed through that historic street of old Deerfield. The site of the Fort well, where the brave defenders of the Benoni Stebbins' house fled for refuge, the stones marking the spots where the houses stood, all seen beneath a dark, lowering sky, seemed in their dreariness to carry us back to the desolation, 200 years before.

"The Site of The Fort Well."

John, son of Joseph and Hannah Stebbins Catlin, was born in 1704, three months after his father's tragic death in "The Meadow Fight." He early entered the military service and was a commissioned officer. In 1743, he was a

CATLIN

Lieutenant of a company of Snow Shoe men. They were equipped with snow shoes, so that they could traverse the deep, soft snow, in the otherwise impassable woods.

A large number of Deerfield men served on the frontiers, during the old French wars. He served under Capt. Kellogg, in Father Rase's war, and was in command of Fort Shirley for nearly two years.

He led a company of 52 men from Deerfield to Fort Massachusetts, where he was second in command. He writes from that Fort, that "the scouts have cleared the coasts about there," and says he has "learned that one of the skulks who killed Phips at the great meadow, received his death wound and died at Crown Point."

The year of 1755 was a year of great activity and disaster in the colonies. July 20th, John Catlin was made Captain. Col. Williams of Hoosac, writes of him to the Governor: "I have had a large experience of his courage and good conduct both in the last, and present war."

In Sept. 6, 1756, Capt. John Catlin returns a list of men he had impressed of his Majesty's service, doubtless for the army under Lord Loudon, near Albany.

We have a letter of his, giving some idea of the service of scouts, dated:

CATLIN

"Coleraine, May the 18th, 1758.

"Sir ;

"I have ordered the scout from this place to go once in a week to Deerfield river about 8 miles above the province and the Line, and fall town scout to strike the North River 6 miles above us, and direct you to send your scout once a week to Deerfield River at the province Line. We have no news but all well. I am your servant,"

Letter addressed to Sergt. Othniel Taylor, on His Majesty's Service :

"Coleraine, May the 30th, 1758.

"Sir—

"Last Sunday night I received an account from Sergt. Hawks that his scout had made some discovery of an enemy, not far from Pelham Fort. These are therefore to direct you to tack one man from your fort with you, and go to Rice's, and tack two men there to Hawk's, and tack Samuel Morrison, with one man, five in whole, and go to the place where they took their start, and make a thourer Search, and if you make no discovery, then carry the scout as hy up as the province Line, and make return to me.

"Your Sent,"

CATLIN

In 1758, he was in command of the cordon of 12 forts, extending from Northfield to Pontoosuc, with headquarters at Burke's fort.

He was active in town affairs, as well as in the military service, serving as Selectman and town moderator 18 times. In 1751, Capt. John Catlin was chosen "to Fence the Burying yard with a good five rail fence, with a good gate to enter said yard, and to purchase a Pall for the use of the Town: not to exceed the price of 5 shillings 8 pence. Lawful money—but if any person or persons will add to said sum, so as to purchase a velvet Pall, he may procure that."

John Catlin married Mary, daughter of Benjamin Munn, June 15, 1727.

Sept. 24, 1758, Capt. John Catlin of Deerfield, died in the service, at Burke's fort.

John Catlin was our Great-great-grandfather.

Mercy, daughter of John and Mary (Munn) Catlin, was born in Deerfield, Sept. 13, 1741. We know little of our great-grandmother Mercy, but we have with great satisfaction discovered among some old papers in Deerfield, the Memorandum of her wedding trousseau. Ensign Joseph Barnard was a well to do neighbor of Mercy's father. He was an

CATLIN

active trader, importing goods which were brought to Deerfield from Salem by team.

We can imagine our great-grandmother sitting down, and with much thought and care making out her list for Ensign Barnard to execute. How little she thought that 139 years afterwards, her great-grandchildren would be reading it with much interest, and venturing to put it in print as a model for future generations of brides. We feel that she must have worn the "light blue English shoes," on her marriage day.

MEMORANDUM FOR ENSIGN JOSEPH BARNARD FROM MERCY CATLIN

"See Be so good as to get ye Following Articles;

1 Half a Doz. Pewter Platters.

1. One Doz. and a Half of Pewter plates.

1two Quart Basons. and two of a larger size.

1 One Quart cup and 1 Pint cup.

A Brass Kittle it will Hold Eight pailfulls.

A Big Brass Skillet & a looking-Glass.

Three Big Blankets & 1 Block tin teapot.

Knives & forks, a Doz. each . A dozen of Spoons.

CATLIN

*Three candlesticks & half a dozen white stone plates.
Half a Doz. white stone tea dishes & a Sugar Dish.
Half a Doz. Chiney tea dishes & half a Doz. silver
tea spoons.*

*Three Earthen Bolls. Two stone mugs. A Quart &
a Pint.*

*Fourteen yrd & a Half of Silk & Worsted Stuff for
a gown.*

Four yrd & a Half of Holland.

Four yrd & a quarter of Blue Druant.

A pair of light blue English Shoes.

One warming Pan. & one pair of Bellows.

1 set of Chiney Tea dishes.

The set of Chiney Tea dishes cost six shillings.

*The half a dozen silver tea spoons, One Pound two
shillings. and the Brass Kittle, one Pound and sixteen shillings.*

June— this is the sum I have

1st.— advanced for Miss Mercy Catlin) 16-3-7-2. 2 farthings

1765— by her desire— Sixteen Pounds, 3 shillings, 7 pence &

*Ensign Barnard returned with his commissions June
1st, 1765.*

CATLIN

Mercy Catlin of Deerfield, married Consider Arms of Conway, Dec. 11, 1765.

After her husband's death she lived for over twenty years in the old Conway home, she and her two daughters occupying one part of the house.

Uncle Elijah remembers her sudden death at the age of 80.

Mary Baldwin

Wife of John Catlin, 2d

Great-great-grandmother of Mercy Catlin

Wife of Consider Arms

Richard Baldwin, 1st, made his Will in 1552. His
Richard Baldwin, 2d— wife's name was Ellen.

Richard Baldwin, 3d— He was our eighth Great-grand-
Joseph Baldwin— father.

Mary Baldwin Catlin— Richard Baldwin, 2d, our seventh
Joseph Catlin— Great-grandfather, was about 23 when

John Catlin— his father died. By his father's will

Mercy Catlin Arms— he received tenement lands in Choles-
John Arms— bury, Bucks, England.

Martha Arms— Richard Baldwin, 3d, and the third
of these ancestors to have been born
before 1600, made his will Dec. 23, 1630, in part, as
follows :

THE WILL OF RICHARD BALDWIN, 3d, OUR
SIXTH GREAT-GRANDFATHER

"I, Richard Bauldwin, of Cholesbury, in the County of Bucks. Eng. weaver; being weake in body, but of pfect, and good remembrance, Blessed be God! Therefore do make this my last Will and Testament.

"1st. I commit myself soule and body into the hands of Almighty God.

"I give unto Isabell, my wife, 1-3 part of all my goods, cattel, chattels, and the like.

"Unto my sonne, Joseph, one meadow platte, called by the name of Hunts Metie, by estimacon half an acre more or less, adjoining to my cottage, for him to take possession of, at the age of 21 years.

"I give to the pore of Cholesbury, X Shillings, and to the church, 3 Shillings, fourpence. I give unto the minister, 20 Shillings."

We are sorry not to be able to reproduce his interesting and curious signature here, and that we know no more of his wife Isabell.

BALDWIN

Joseph, son of Richard, 3d, and Isabell ——— Baldwin, and through them descended from Sir John Baldwin, Chief Justice of the Common Pleas of England, in 1536.

We do not know when Joseph Baldwin came to this country, only that he was one of the first settlers of Milford, Conn., in 1639, before he was 30 years of age. His name appears there that year among the Free Planters.

At Milford, he married Hannah ———. The one interesting fact that has come down to us concerning her life, is that she joined the church at Milford, in 1644, when their first four children were baptized.

Joseph Baldwin married for his second wife, Isabella, widow of our ancestor, John Catlin, and her son John Catlin, 2d, married his step-sister, Mary, Joseph Baldwin's daughter.

Joseph Baldwin removed to Hadley, and was made Freeman there, in 1666. His name is on a Petition in 1672, to enlarge the bounds of that town.

Joseph Baldwin died Nov. 2d, 1684.

He was our fifth Great-grandfather on both the Arms and Graves sides.

THE STORY OF MARY BALDWIN, OUR
FOURTH GREAT-GRANDMOTHER

Mary, daughter of Joseph and Hannah ——— Baldwin, was baptized in Milford, June 23, 1644. She was married (at the early age of 18) in Wethersfield, Sept. 23, 1662, to John Catlin, 2d, with whom she removed from Newark to Deerfield, in 1683. The story of one loving, merciful act of this truly Christian Grandmother, has come down to us from the Deerfield Massacre (1704), shining out as a bright candle against the dark background of that dreadful night.

Among the prisoners huddled together in the Old Indian House, after it had been taken by the enemy, was Mary Baldwin Catlin. She had just seen her own house sacked and burnt, knowing that her husband and son had perished in the flames.

As the captives waited there, a wounded French Officer was brought in and laid upon the floor. In his agony he called piteously for water. Mrs. Catlin raised him, and tenderly moistened his fevered lips. Some one said to her:

“How can you do that for your enemy?”

She answered, “If thine enemy hunger, feed him; If he thirst, give him water to drink!”

BALDWIN

When the captives were gathered together for the march, Mrs. Catlin was left behind, a proof of the Frenchman's acknowledgement and appreciation of her great kindness.

"After they were all gone, a little boy came that was hid in the house. Mrs. Catlin said to the boy, 'Go run and hide.'

"The boy said, 'Mrs. Catlin, Why don't you go and hide?'

"She said, 'I am a captive, It is not my duty to hide, but you have not been taken, and it is your duty to hide!'"

—History of Deerfield.

But her heart was broken, left as she was, a widow and almost childless. Six, out of her family of ten, taken from her at one stroke, and five weeks later, April 9, 1704, Mary Baldwin Catlin died.

She was our fourth Great-grandmother.

Hannah Stebbins

*Great-grandmother of Mercy Catlin
Wife of Consider Arms*

Rowland Stebbing, our emigrant ancestor, was born in
John Stebbins— 1594, in the reign of Queen Elizabeth—
Hannah Stebbins Sheldon—beth, in the village of Stebbing,
Hannah Sheldon Catlin— about 38 miles from London.

John Catlin— He sailed from Ipswich, Eng-
Mercy Catlin Arms— land, on the ship "Francis," with
John Arms— his family, consisting of himself,
Martha Arms— then forty years of age, his wife,
Sarah, (being three years older)

two sons, two daughters and a servant. His son John,
our ancestor, was eight years old at the time they landed in
Boston, in 1634. The city of Boston was then but four
years old.

They stayed at Roxbury for a short time, and then
with Rowland's friend, John Pynchon, removed to assist in
founding a colony at Springfield, in 1636. Between the

STEBBINS

minister's house and that of Rowland Stebbins, the great drum was sounded to summon the people to church on the Sabbath.

Although Springfield was in extent equal to about 25 miles square, yet the inhabitants to avoid being crowded, adjudged that the whole territory would not accommodate more than 40 or 50 families.

Sarah, the wife of Rowland Stebbins, died at Springfield, Oct. 4, 1649, aged 58.

Soon after his son John's removal to Northampton, his father followed him, and died there, Dec. 14, 1671, aged 77 years.

Fifty-four years ago, his grave was discovered and opened, the remains having been in it, at that time, 179 years.

A monument had been erected to his memory by one of his descendants in another part of the old cemetery, but, says the *New England Register*, "it is intended to place a marble slab at the head of the real grave, with a suitable inscription."

Rowland Stebbins was a man of property and education. The following is the substance of his Will, dated 1669:

THE WILL

"I, Rowland Stebbins of Northampton, in Hampshire, in the Colony of Massachusetts. Having my perfect memory, through the goodness of God, though very weak and sick in body, wayting for my great change, which I desire the Lord in mercy to fit me for. Do make and ordayne this to be my last Will and Testament.

"I commit my soule to God that made it, and to the Lord Jesus Christ that redeemed it by His most precious blood.

"Also I do make my beloved son John Stebbins to be my full, and sole execltor. As concerning my Outward and worldly estate, that the Lord in His mercy has given me, I dispose of as follows ;"

Certain sums in money were given to the children of his eldest son, and to the nine children of his son John. It appears by the Inventory and appraisal of his real and personal estate (which was ample) that after paying all debts and bequests and incidental expenses, he ordered that the rest and residue should be equally divided between his sons Thomas and John.

He requested that his much honored friend, Capt. John Pyncheon, and his beloved brother, Robert Bartlett (our

STEBBINS

ancestor) would be the overseers of his last Will and Testament, and that his son John should keep the Will.

Rowland Stebbins was our sixth Great-grandfather.

John, son of Rowland and Sarah — Stebbins, was born in England, in 1626. He lived a number of years in Roxbury. In 1651, he bought a house in Springfield. He was an original proprietor of Deerfield, owning 20 cow commons, and drew Houselot, No 13.

If he came to Deerfield, he left no trace, but he appears at Northampton in 1656, and lived at the lower end of Pudding lane, now Hawley Street. His sawmill was situated within the bounds of Northampton.

He was a farmer on a large scale, and owned real estate valued between 400 and 500 Pounds. There is a tradition that while sawing at his mill, the logs would roll over him, set in motion by witches, by which he was severely bruised.

He was on a committee to build the second Meeting House, and chosen measurer, and Selectman in 1675.

John Stebbins died March 9, 1679, "in an unusual manner." There was suspicion of witchcraft and a jury of

STEBBINS

inquest was called, who found "several hundred spots, small ones, as if they had been shot with small shot, which we scraped, and under them were holes into his body."

An investigation was had, the evidence recorded, and laid before the Court in Boston, but no prosecution followed. The facts would seem to indicate that he came to his death by an accident at the Mill, on Broad Brook, of which he was part owner.

Nov. 17, 1657, he married for his second wife, Abigail, daughter of Robert Bartlett. They had 11 children.

Their son John was the only man known to have escaped from the Bloody Brook massacre.

John Stebbins was our fifth Great-grandfather.

Hannah, daughter of John and Abigail Bartlett Stebbins, was born July 8, 1664. On Nov. 15, 1679, when only 15 years of age, she married John Sheldon. She had seven children living at the time of the assault upon Deerfield, Feb. 29, 1704.

Her home, the Old Indian House, was the center of the attack. Her youngest child, Mercy (perhaps our great-grandmother, Mercy Catlin, was named in her memory) little

STEBBINS

more than a baby, was killed on the threshold of the door, and three of her children were taken captive to Canada, but their mother was spared this bitter knowledge.

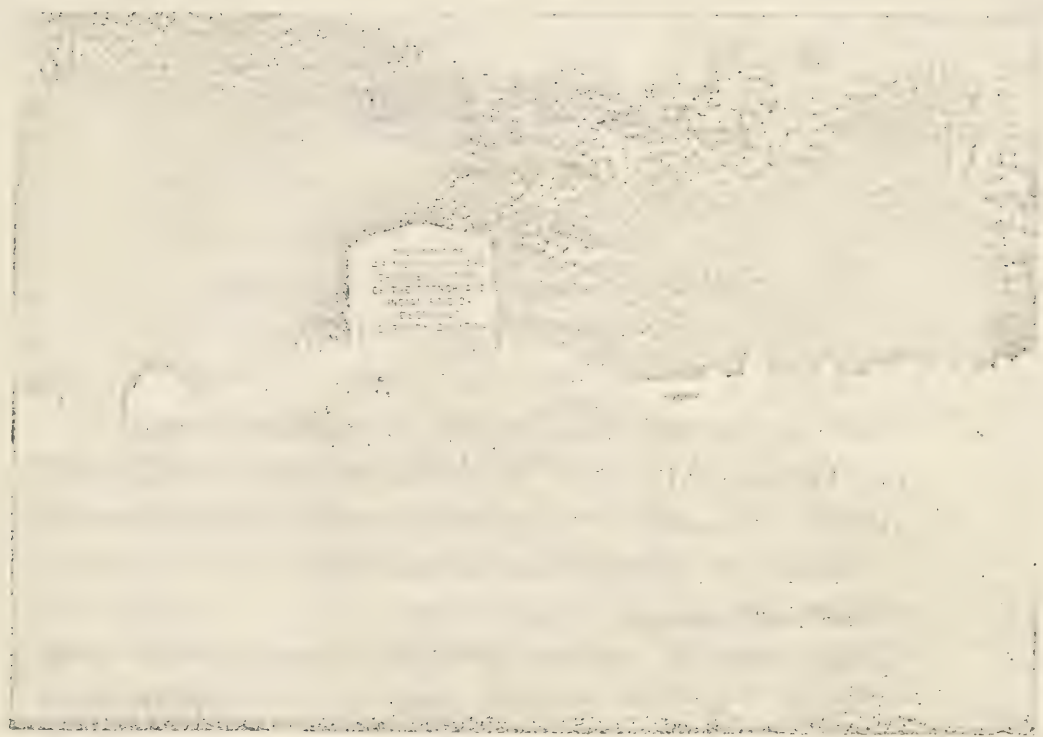
Hannah Sheldon was 44 years old when the shot passed through the old historic door, killing her as she was sitting up in bed, attempting to dress.

Long we sat before that strangely battered oaken door, now preserved in the Deerfield Memorial Hall, trying to imagine that horrible scene, and realizing that it belonged to our own ancestral history. Over the door are hung real Indian tomahawks, and in a small glass box at the side is the bullet that did the dreadful work.

Hannah Stebbins Sheldon was our fourth Great-grand-mother.

There could be no more appropriate memorial to the 48 victims of 1704 than the rough mound in the old burying ground of Deerfield, under which lie their remains. Here rest five of our ancestors:

Hannah Stebbins Sheldon, John Catlin, Joseph Catlin, Samuel Boltwood, Elizabeth Smead.



Burial Mound - 1704, Deerfield, Mass.

Abigail Bartlett

Wife of John Stebbins

Great-great-grandmother of Mercy Catlin

Wife of Consider Arms

Robert Bartlett came from England, probably on "The Abigail Bartlett Stebbins— Lion" in 1632. He remained at Hannah Stebbins Sheldon— Cambridge for a time, and became Hannah Sheldon Catlin— an original Proprietor of Hartford, John Catlin— receiving 8 acres there, in the division Mercy Catlin Arms— of 1639, and was the first Select-man elected in that city. He lived John Arms— on the west side of the highway, Martha Arms— west of what is now LaFayette Street.

He was made Freeman in 1645, Chimney-viewer in 1650.

He was one of the eight who signed their names to the original petition for rights to settle in Northampton, and being one of the very earliest settlers there, Pleasant Street,

BARTLETT

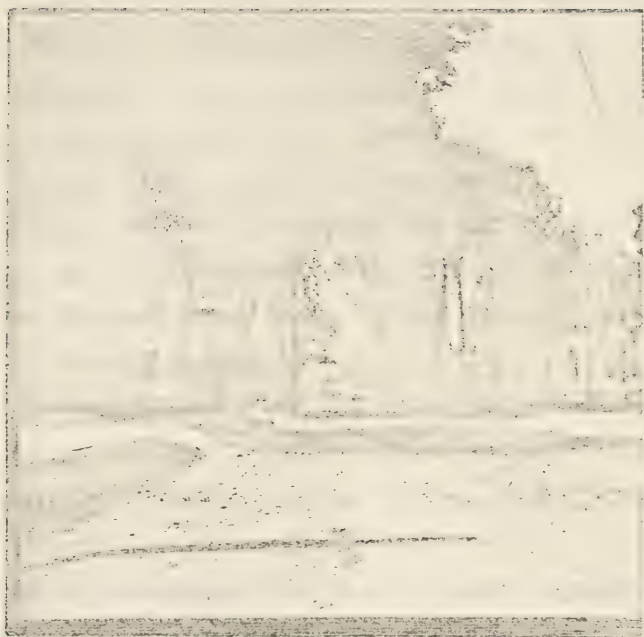
where his homelot was, was first called Bartlett Street in his honor.

At Northampton also, he was the first chosen Selectman. He was prominent in the affairs of the town, his name appearing frequently on the Town Records, during its first years.

March 14, 1676, a very large body of Indians, made an assault upon the sleeping town of Northampton. The defensive works, a single line of palisades, erected during the winter, were quickly broken through in three places. Through the gaps thus made the horde crept in, and at daylight began the work of destruction.

The assailants, ignorant of the newly arrived forces, had no fear of the small garrison, and no doubt of the speedy destruction of the town. Surprised by the appearance of the soldiers of Capt. Turner, they fell back, but in the attempt to scatter in accordance with their usual tactics, they found themselves in a Pound.

A panic followed. They rushed pell-mell for the three narrow breaks in the palisades, where they were exposed to the fire of the English while crowding through. Getting out proved more dangerous than getting in. This lesson was not forgotten. The Indians never again attempted that method of attack, and these slight works proved a real defense.



Bartlett St
Now Pleasant St. Northampton, Mass.

BARTLETT

A letter written from Northampton, two days afterwards, gives the following brief report of this affair.

“On the 14th, just aboute breake of day, the enemy fiercely assaulted Northampton in three places at once, and forced within the lines or palisades, and burnt 5 houses and 5 barns (mostly property of our ancestors), and killed 4 men, and 1 woman, and wounded 6 men more.”

Robert Bartlett was one of the five killed at that time. His body was hastily buried in the highway in front of his home on Pleasant Street, because it was thought unsafe to bury it in the burying-ground.

Five years afterwards, his son Samuel was “granted a small parcell of land so much as is convenient and needful to compass his father’s grave in the common highway.”

Robert Bartlett married Sarah ——.

His granddaughter married a Graves ancestor, making him our sixth Great-grandfather on both sides—Arms and Graves.

Abigail, daughter of Robert and Sarah —— Bartlett, married Nov. 17, 1657, John Stebbins of Northampton. They had eleven children.

She died July 15, 1689.

Abigail Bartlett Stebbins was our fifth Great-grand-mother.

Hannah Sheldon

Wife of Joseph Catlin
Grandmother of Mercy Catlin
Wife of Consider Arms

Isaac Sheldon was born about 1629. On the town
John Sheldon— records of Windsor, Conn., we find,
Hannah Sheldon Catlin— Sept. 13, 1652, "It is assented that
John Catlin— Isaac Sheldon, and Samuel Rock-
Mercy Catlin Arms— well, shall keep house together, in
John Arms— the house that is Isaac's, so they
Martha Arms— carry themselves soberly, and do not
entertain idle persons, to the evil
expense of time, by night or day."

This bachelor life soon ended. In 1654 Isaac Sheldon sold out to Samuel Rockwell, and removed to Northampton, where he was one of the first settlers. In 1660, he was assigned a lot on Bridge Street, which has been handed down from father to son, to the present day.

He was on Northampton's second board of Selectmen.

SHELDON

A member of the first church, and a leading man in town affairs.

He married in 1653, Mary, daughter of Thomas Woodford, of Hartford,

Isaac Sheldon, died July 29, 1708.

He was our fifth Great-grandfather, on both sides, Arms and Graves.

John, son of Isaac and Mary Woodford Sheldon, was born in Northampton, Dec. 5, 1658, one of thirteen children. Among the companions of his childhood were John and Benoni Stebbins, sons of John Stebbins of Northampton.

In 1679 (while yet lacking a month of his majority) he married their sister, Hannah Stebbins. She was our youngest grandmother, being at the time of her marriage, but fifteen years and four months old. The boy husband and his child wife remained in Northampton, until after the birth of their first two children, but the pioneer spirit was born in John Sheldon, and we find him soon with his young family among the founders of a frontier settlement.

Among the very first of those by whom Deerfield was

SHELDON

permanently established, were John Sheldon, and his wife's brothers, John and Benoni Stebbins.

John Sheldon is first mentioned in the town records of Deerfield when he was chosen on "a committee to lay out wood lands," and the same year was chosen to be on the first board of Selectmen, and was re-elected almost every year for 18 years. The legislative and executive powers of this board were then very great.

In 1691, he was made Ensign. In 1693, we find him deacon of the church, and the next year on the committee to build a new Meeting House. In 1697, he, with one other, was appointed to look over old papers, and "direct the town clerk to record such as should be recorded." To the discretion and labors of this committee, we owe the preservation of very valuable matter on our book of town records. On these records I find no busier hand than John Sheldon. None whose voice was more often sought in the prudential affairs of the town.

John Sheldon built in 1696 the now historical old Indian House.



The Old Indian House.
Deerfield, 1696.

THE STORY OF THE OLD INDIAN HOUSE

Its frame was largely of oak. It was 21 by 42 feet. Two stories with a steep pitch roof. In front, the second story projected about 2 feet. The ends of the cross beams being supported by ornamental oak brackets; two of which are preserved, with the door in Memorial Hall. A lean-to, 13 and a half feet wide, ran the whole length of the north side; its roof being a continuation of that on the main building. The ground floor was thus 34 and a half by 42 feet.

Near the center, rose the chimney; about 10 feet square at the base, with fireplaces on the sides and rear. The lower floor was laid under the sill, which projecting beyond the wall, formed a ledge around the bottom of the rooms; a tempting seat for the children. Including the garret there were five rooms in the main structure. Each of them lighted by two windows, with diamond panes set in lead.

The kitchen was in a central part of the lean-to, with windows in the rear. The great fire place (8 feet long, including the oven) was a deep cavern. Here, hanging on nails, driven into a piece of wood, built into the structure for the purpose, hung the branding iron, the burning iron, the pot hook, the long handled frying pan, the oven slice; the scooped fire shovel, with short tongs, standing by.

In one end was the oven. Its mouth flush with the

SHELDON

back of the fire-place. In this nook, when the oven was not in use, stood a wooden bench, on which the children could sit and study the catechism and spelling book by firelight; or watch the stars through the square tower above their heads, the view interrupted only by the black shiny lug pole, and its great trammels, or in the season, its burden of hams, and fitches of pork or venison hanging to be cured in the smoke.

The mantel tree was a huge beam of oak protected from the blaze only by the current of cold air constantly ascending.

There was no lath or plaster. The ceiling being the same. The partitions and walls were of panel work, with the mouldings about the doors and windows. These mouldings were all cut by hand from solid wood. No finer lumber is found than that with which these old houses were finished. The furniture, for the most part, homemade, rude and unpainted, was scanty. A few stools, benches, and splint bottomed chairs, a table or two, plain chests, rude low bedsteads, with homemade ticks, filled with straw, or pine needles. (The best room may have had a carved oak chest brought from England.)

There were no carpets. The floors were sprinkled with fine, white sand, which on particular occasions, was brushed into fanciful patterns, with a birch broom, or handful of twigs. The ample kitchen was the center of family life.

SHELDON

social and industrial.

John Sheldon's house was probably the largest and the best in town. It was taken down in 1848.

Lulled by frequent false alarms into a fatal sense of security, John Sheldon's family, and their neighbors slept soundly on the night of the 29th of February, 1704. The bitter cold penetrated even their well-built dwelling; the drifted snow lay piled outside against the palisades; the wind shrieked as it tore the dry branches from the trees, and hurled them far over the frozen crust, but no consciousness of unusual danger disturbed their slumbers, yet with the rushing of each fitful gust the cruel foe was creeping stealthily nearer to the little hamlet.

The stormy night was well nigh spent, the guard lay heavy in his first sleep, when the enemy came in like a flood, pouring over the palisades, heaving and tossing like the angry billows of a stormy sea. The horrid crowd surged about the houses of the defenceless people.

Resistance was vain. Some were instantly murdered. Others powerless with fear were fiercely torn from their warm beds, bound hand and foot, and hurried out half dressed into the winter night, already ruddy as the dawn with the glare of the burning village.

For a time the well-built, and firmly bolted door of John Sheldon's house, proved an effectual barrier against the



From Peter Parley's *History of New England*.

SHELDON

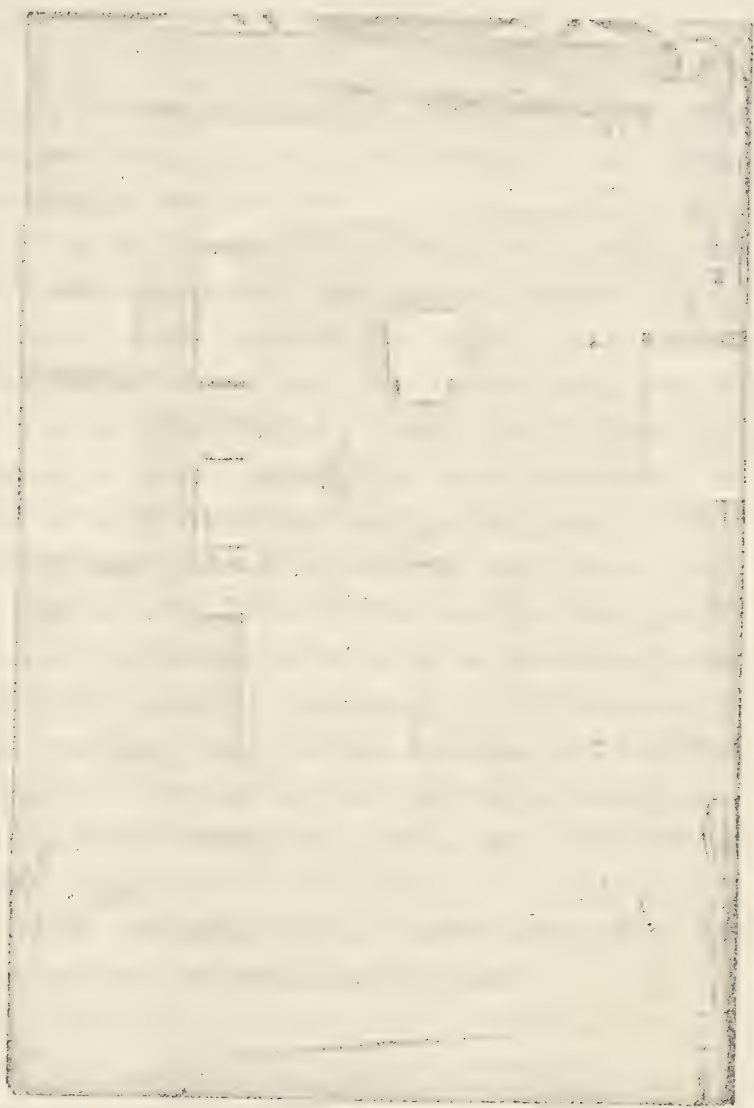
savages. Sacred, historic door! Door of the ark of the covenant wert thou! to our fathers in the olden time. Built of no costly material; No gold adorns thy panels! Heart of oak art thou! Fit type of the heroes who framed thee! Sturdy and strong in their defense, as they in their defense of liberty! Ye yielded never! More to us than Grecian sculpture are thy carvings by Indian Tomahawks, and thy wrought spikes more precious than bosses of silver and gold!

Maddened at last by their baffled efforts, they hacked and hewed it, till the hole was cut, which is still to be seen in it. Through this they fired at random, killing Hannah Sheldon (our fourth Great-grandmother) who was dressing herself in bed, in the room at the right of the door. Finally swarming in at the windows, they captured Mary Sheldon, and her two young brothers, and killed their little sister Mercy, a child of three years.

At daybreak, De Rouville, the French commander of the assault, rallied his troops for the retreat, and the shivering captives began their painful march.

The sorrows of that awful journey to Canada, cannot be described. Of the whereabouts of our John Sheldon on that fearful night, we know nothing, but we cannot suppose him to have been idle or panic stricken.

He may have been with that gallant band that fell upon the enemy's rear that morning, abandoning the pursuit



" The Scarred and Battered Door "
Of The Old Indian House

only when retaliation threatened the captives. What must have been his feelings as he walked through his once happy home searching for his dear ones!

Five out of his family of seven were gone! His daughter Hannah Catlin (our third Great-grandmother whose husband Joseph Catlin was slain that morning in the Meadow Fight), his little grandchild, and his married son, were all who were left of John Sheldon's family. In the Spring days that followed, the scanty remnants of three households, sat around his cheerless hearthstone, and talked sadly of their dead, and of those far away in captivity worse than death.

Vaguely at first, John Sheldon thought of their possible rescue, but as the gloomy summer wore on, his dream became a definite purpose, and he announced the determination to devote his remaining energies to the redemption of his children and townsfolk. Three of his own children, his daughter-in-law, and his wife's brother, and family, with their beloved pastor, Mr. Williams, were in captivity. To his tenderness of heart, to his unflagging faith, and indomitable will, is due in a large measure the success which followed.

THE FIRST EXPEDITION TO CANADA

We need not go back to King Arthur for exploits of chivalry. Our colonial history is full of them. This man long past the daring impulses of youth! Show me a braver knight errant setting out with loftier purpose, on a more perilous pilgrimage! Three hundred miles of painful, and unaccustomed tramping in mid winter, over mountain and valley, through tangled thickets, and snow clogged forest, where with fell purpose the cruel savage lurked with gun in hand and pack on back, now wading knee deep over some rapid stream, now in the teeth of the fierce north wind toiling over the slippery surface of the frozen lake; digging away the drifts at night for his camp, wet, lame, half-famished; chilled to the bone; hardly daring to kindle a fire; a bit of dried meat from his pack for a supper; spruce boughs for his bed; crouching there, wrapped in his blanket, his head muffled in the hood of his capote; eye and ear alert; up at daybreak, and on, again, through storm and sleet!

What iron will, and nerves of steel; sound mind in sound body! To dare, and to do, what this man did!

Of the date of John Sheldon's arrival in Canada, we are ignorant. The news of it spread up and down the river, reviving the drooping spirits of the captives. The envoys

SHELDON

delivered their letters to the Governor, by whose permission, Mr. Williams (the Deerfield pastor) came up to see them. From him, Sheldon heard that his children were living, and his only companion (John Wells) heard the sad tidings of his mother's murder.

Deacon Sheldon was greatly exercised by the account of the craft and cruelty employed by the French to ensnare the young, and turn them from the simplicity of the Gospel, to Romish superstition.

March 29, Mr. Sheldon received a letter from his son's wife, in Montreal, which probably gave him the first definite intelligence of his children. Enclosed with her's, was the following scrap, in a beautiful hand-writing, written by one of her fellow captives:

"I pray you my kind love to Landlord Sheldon, and tell Him, I am sorry for all his Loss. I doe in these few lines shoue youe that God has shone yo grat kindness, and mercer, in carrying your Daughter Hannah and Mary in partickeler through soe grat a jorney far behiend my expectations, noing how Lane they was. The Rest of your children are with the Indians. Remembrance lives near cabect (Quebec) Hannah does lives with the Frenc. In the same house i doe"

Mr. Sheldon's reply to his daughter-in-law is dated:

"Quebec, The 1. of April. 1705.

"der child—

"This to let you noe that i received yours the 29th of March, which was a comfort to me—I am whele .Blessed be God for it ! . and i may tell you i dont here of my child as yet. The save is, that he is in the wodes a hunten. remember my love to Mr. Adams, and his wif and Judah Writ, and all the reste, as if named, and my hartly desire is that God would in his own good time opene a dore of deliverans fore you al, and the meanwhile let us wait with patiens on God for it, hoe can bring lite out of darkness, and let us cast al our care on God who doeth care for us, and can helpe us.

"Mr. Williams is sent down the river agane 18 or 20 miles. I did enjoy his company about 3 weekes, which was a comfort to me. He gives his love to al the captives there. My desire is that Mr. Addams and you wod doe al you can with your mistress that my children mite be redeemed from the Indanes. Our post returned bake again in 8 days, by reson of the badnes of the ise They goe again the seckont of this month and i desire to com up to Montreal the beginen of May. John Wels and Ebenezer Warner gives ther love to al the captives ther, and soe writes your loven father—;"

"Between the date of the above, and the 7th, on which

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the post is to start again, Mr. Sheldon is busy writing letters. The following, dated April 2, 1705, is the remnant of that sent by this post, to his son John at Deerfield:

“dear child;

“this few lines are to let you noe i am in good helth at this time. Blessed be God for it!. i may tell you that we sent away a post the 18th day of March. They ware gone 8 days and returned a gane by reson that the ise was soe bad. This may let you noe I received a letter from your wife the 29th of March, and she was whel. i may let you noe i haint sene none of my children but here they are gone a huntten. . . .”

The persistent importunities of Mr. Sheldon and Mr. Williams, aided by the friendly offices of Capt. DeBeauville, an officer of high rank, brought about the ransom of the minister's daughter Esther, one of Sheldon's children, and his son's wife.

THE SECOND EXPEDITION

In 1706, John Sheldon appears as a full fledged ambassador. Jan. 25, with two attendants, he again left Deerfield, taking the same route as before. Another dreary winter journey! They arrived at Quebec in the beginning of March.

Although the despatches carried by Mr. Sheldon were not satisfactory to De Baudreuil, he could oppose nothing to Mr. Sheldon's arguments, that he was in honor bound to release some captives in return for the French prisoners that had been sent home to Canada. He at last reluctantly consented to release 43.

Mr. Williams, writing after his own redemption, and before Mr. Sheldon's third expedition, speaking of this, says:

"The last who came in, numbered between 40, and 50, with Mr. Sheldon (a good man, and true servant of the church in Deerfield) who twice took his tedious, and dangerous journey in the winter, from New England unto Canada."

They came aboard the Marie, at Quebec, May 30, and after nine weeks difficult passage, arrived at Boston, Aug. 1, 1706. On their homeward journey, a letter from Mr. Williams (still in captivity) was read to the freed captives. In it he writes:

"Let God have the glory of preserving you, and dont

SHELDON

ascribe it to your own wisdom. Thanksgiving is the best thanksgiving."

Sheldon's daughter Mary, was rescued on this second expedition. A clause from a letter of DeVaudruil, shows John Sheldon as an honest government official:

"I have done myself the pleasure to honor the letter of credit you have given Mr. Sheldon upon me. He has used it very modestly, and has demanded of me, only 750 Livres."

Mr. Sheldon's account shows how the money was expended. His landlord at Quebec, and Montreal got a good part of it. The destitute captives were clothed, other interesting items were:

"For a carriall to goe see the captives at the Mohawk fort.

"For a canoe and men to goe visit Mr. Williams.

"More paid to ye Barbour for me and my men and for my Blooting.

"Laid out for my daughter Mary, for necessary clothing.

"More for my darter."

SHELDON

35 Pounds were voted to Mr. Sheldon. While Mr. Sheldon was settling his affairs in Boston, young John Sheldon wrote him as follows:

“Honored Father Sheldon;—

“After duty presented, these to let you noe that I received your letter, which we desire to bless you for it. Pray give my love, with my wife’s to sister Mary, and all the rest of the captives. . . .

“I pray you to buy for me a paire of curlings, and a feather bead, and a greene coverlid, and a necklace of amber. . . .”

No doubt these commissions were faithfully executed, and the old Indian House was soon gladdened by the return of its master, and another of the long sundered household. On his return to Deerfield after his second expedition, John Sheldon entered again upon the town business.

There being no longer any excuse for retaining Mr. Williams, he and 56 others, among whom were his two sons, and probably Sheldon’s last child, came home on the return trip of the *Marie*. When they landed in Boston, John Sheldon was chosen a committee to go down the bay to treat with Mr. Williams about returning to Deerfield as their pastor.

John Sheldon was not permitted to remain long with his reunited family. His country again needed his services.

THIRD EXPEDITION TO CANADA

On the 14th of January, 1707, Gov. Dudley informed his council that there were about 90 English still held by the French and Indians at Canada, whom the Gov. had promised to return the coming Spring, and proposed to have "a person Legere, at Quebec, to put forward that affair and endeavor that all be sent, and that Mr. John Sheldon, who has been twice already, may be employed with a suitable retinue to undertake a journey thither, on that service, if the season will permit. . . ."

As we have already seen, John Sheldon, was not one to permit "the season" to stand in the way of his serving the state. Accordingly he left Deerfield in April, attended by three others. We have a hint of how it fared with him on his northward march in this item from his account book :

"Paid 6 Livres to an Indian to guide us into the way when bewildered."

Mr. Sheldon was in great danger during this last journey to Canada, and his sojourn there. His reception was

SHELDON

not the most courteous, as we learn by this letter from the Court of Versailles. (It is rather interesting to think of an ancestor of ours disturbing the French Court):

“To the Gov. of Canada—

“His Majesty approves of your having spoken as you did to the man named Scheldin, whom that Gov. Dudley sent you by land in search of the English prisoners at Buebee, and even if you had had him put in prison with all his suite, it would have been no great matter. . . .”

He was not permitted to return until midsummer, and then with only 7 captives.

In October Mr. Sheldon was again in Deerfield, where he was appointed for the town as a Petitioner to the Gen. Court for help toward Mr. Williams' salary.

His name appears in 1707, on two petitions, for aid in consideration of his own losses, and for his services and those of his attendants in his last journey, “in which they endured much fatigue and hardship, and passed through great danger, sustaining also considerable damage by their absence from their Business. . . .”

SHELDON

In answer he was given 50 Pounds for his services (13 of which was to be paid him by a Mulatto whom he had brought out of bondage) and a grant of 300 acres, not to exceed 40 acres of meadow land, was made him. Shortly after this he removed to Hartford, where in 1708, he married a second time.

In 1726, Capt. Sheldon "being weak in body, yet through God's goodness to him, of sound mind and memory," made his Will, and died in 1734, at the age of 76. We need not search the rolls of heraldry for the pedigree of old John Sheldon. We have found him a brave man, a good citizen, a tender husband and a loving father. True and faithful in all his private relations and public positions. A pillar of the church and state. What more need we ask!

—From a paper written by Alice C. Baker of Cambridge, Mass.

Two hundred and forty-six years have passed since John Sheldon's birth, and it seems wonderful that the patient searchers in old Manuscripts have been able to give us so many facts concerning his noble and useful life. We are greatly favored in having discovered so interesting an ancestor as Ensign John Sheldon, for through him we are heirs to

SHELDON

the best of the Old Deerfield memories. The old Indian House was one of our family homesteads.

Capt. John Sheldon was our fourth Great-grandfather.

Hannah, daughter of John and Hannah Stebbins Sheldon, was born Oct. 9, 1683. When 18 years of age she married Joseph Catlin, June 26, 1701.

She was with her husband in the Benoni Stebbins house, at the time of the Deerfield Massacre, and was wounded in the attack on the house. She was carried to Northampton, after her brave husband was killed in the Meadow Fight, and their son John was born there about three months after.

She died July 13, 1764, aged 81.

Hannah Sheldon Catlin was our third Great-grand-mother.

Mary Woodford

Wife of Isaac Sheldon

Great-great-grandmother of Mercy Catlin

Wife of Consider Arms

Thomas Woodford came to Boston in the "William Mary Woodford Sheldon—and Francis," which sailed March John Sheldon— 7th, arriving June 5th, 1632. He Hannah Sheldon Catlin— first settled at Roxbury, where he John Catlin— was made Freeman March 4, 1635. Mercy Catlin Arms— He married in Roxbury, Mary, John Arms— daughter of Robert Blott. He came Martha Arms— to (Agawam) Springfield, with Mr. Pyncheon's company, where he signed the agreement of May 16, 1636, and had an allotment of land.

He is named in the distribution of 1639, at Hartford, where he was one who received land "by the courtesy of the town." His homelot was on the west side of the highway, now Front Street.

WOODFORD

He was chosen in 1639-40, to attend the townsmen, and to do any special services required by them, as to give notice of town meeting, impound stray cattle, etc.

He was appointed to act as sexton in 1640. "To attend the making of graves for any corpses deceased," and to receive for giving notice by ringing the bell, making the grave and keeping of it in seemly repair, so that it may be known in future time; when such graves had been made for the "lesser sort," he received 2 Shillings Sixpence, for the "middle sort," 3 Shillings, and for the "higher sort," 3 Shillings Sixpence.

He was also appointed Town Crier, and "to be paid Two pence, for crying anything lost."

His wife probably died in Hartford.

He removed, about 1656, to Northampton, where he died, March 6, 1667.

Thomas Woodford was our sixth Great-grandfather on both sides.

Mary, daughter of Thomas and Mary Blott Woodford married Isaac Sheldon in 1653.

She died April 17, 1684.

Mary Woodford Sheldon was our fifth Great-grandmother.

Mary Blott

Wife of Thomas Woodford

Great-great-great-grandmother of Mercy Catlin

Wife of Consider Arms

Robert Blott—

Mary Blott Woodford—

Mary Woodford Sheldon—

John Sheldon—

Hannah Sheldon Catlin—

John Catlin—

Mercy Catlin Arms—

John Arms—

Martha Arms—

Mary Munn

Wife of John Catlin
Mother of Mercy Catlin
, Wife of Consider Arms

Benjamin Munn—*We first hear of Benjamin Munn John Munn— in 1637, as one of the seventy, who Benjamin Munn, 2d— went on the famous expedition under Mary Munn Catlin— Capt. Mason, against the Pequots. Mercy Catlin Arms— He was one of the original proprietors of Hartford, having received land John Arms— there in 1639, "by the town's courtesie," Martha Arms— and his lot was on the east side of "the road to the cow-pasture" (North Main Street). He was viewer of chimneys and ladders in 1647. 1649, he removed to Springfield, and that same year married Abigail, daughter of Henry Burt.*

In 1665, "Being very aged and weak," he was exempted



MUNN

from military service. Benjamin Munn was probably killed by Indians, in Nov., 1675.

He was our fifth Great-grandfather.

John, son of Benjamin and Abigail (Burt) Munn, was born Feb. 8, 1652.

He settled in Westfield. In 1676, he was in the Falls Fight, in which so many of our ancestors on both sides took part. There, he "lost his horse, saddle, and bridle," for which he asks pay, and says he is "under a wasting sickness, which he contracted at the Falls Fight." In another petition in 1683, he says "he is in a sad condition, by reason of a surfet got at the Falls Fight, and it will through him into an incurable consumption."

He died Sept. 16, 1684.

John Munn married Dec. 23, 1680, Abigail, daughter of Benjamin Parsons of Springfield.

John Munn was our fourth Great-grandfather.

Benjamin, son of John and Abigail Parsons Munn, was born in Westfield, in 1683. He removed with his

MUNN

mother and step-father to Deerfield, where he was a carpenter, and occupied places of trust in the town. He was chosen Selectman several times, and twice Moderator of the Town Meetings.

In 1724, "he was chosen to seat all white persons in the Meeting house above the age of sixteen years." In 1730, he was on a Committee to invite a new minister to settle in the place of Mr. Williams.

Tradition tells of a sort of a side hill house, or cave, where Benjamin Munn lived, which was so covered with snow as to escape the observation of the enemy Feb. 29, 1704. However that may be, he with wife and baby escaped the horrors of the night unharmed.

Another house was built, on or near this spot, which was burned in the night time, and again tradition tells us that a cat awakened the sleeping occupants, Benjamin Munn and his wife, by running across their faces just in time for them to escape, and that the cat was never seen afterwards.

He was a soldier in the French War. Late in life he removed to Northfield, where he died, Feb. 5th, 1774, aged 91.

He married Jan. 15th, 1702, Thankful, daughter of Godfrey Nims.

Benjamin Munn, 2d, was our third Great-grandfather.

MUNN

Mary, daughter of Benjamin and Thankful Wins Munn, was born Dec. 7, 1705. She married June 15, 1727, John Catlin. They had nine children. She died five years after her husband, Nov. 10, 1763, aged 58.

Mary Munn was our Great-great-grandmother.

Abigail Burt

*Wife of Benjamin Munn
Great-great-grandmother of Mercy Catlin
Wife of Consider Arms*

Henry Burt, our emigrant ancestor, we hear of first, Abigail Burt Munn— at Roxbury, Mass., where his house John Munn— was burned, for which loss the Gen. Benjamin Munn, 2d—Court made grant to the town of 8 Mary Munn Catlin— Pounds in Nov., 1639. He removed Mercy Catlin Arms—to Springfield, in 1640, and was there John Arms— clerk of the band, and Clerk of the Martha Arms— Writs. Henry Burt was a lay exhorter at meetings on the Sabbath, when Springfield was without a minister.

He was yearly chosen one of the five men “by ye general vote and consent of ye Plantation for ye ordering of the prudential affaires of ye towne,” and one of the six men who had the power to lay out land “both of upland

BURT

and meadows." His name is constantly appearing in various positions of trust in the records.

On his deathbed Mr. Burt made a verbal Will, which certain witnesses took oath to, and which the Court allowed. By the Inventory of the estate, his property amounted to 181 Pounds, 14 Shillings, though there were said to be debts amounting to 50 Pounds.

On the Town record appears "Henry Burt ye clarke of ye writs, died ye 30 of April, 1662, in the evening, and was buried May 1, 1662."

He married Ullalia ———.

There is a tradition that his wife Ullalia was laid out for dead in England, and put into her coffin, but signs of life appearing at her funeral, she recovered, came to New England, and was the mother of 14 children.

She finally died at Springfield, Aug. 19, 1690.

Henry Burt was our sixth Great-grandfather.

Abigail, daughter of Henry and Ullalia Burt, married for her second husband, Feb. 2, 1649, Benjamin Munn, 1st.

She died (a Mrs. Stebbins), 1692.

Abigail Burt Munn was our fifth Great-grandfather.

Abigail Parsons

Wife of John Munn
Great-grandmother of Mercy Catlin
Wife of Consider Arms

Thomas Parsons, our English ancestor, was a country
Hugh Parsons— Gentleman, of Great Milton, Oxford-
Benjamin Parsons— shire, England. He was of an Heraldic
Abigail Parsons Munn—family, and a man of considerable
Benjamin Munn, 2d—wealth, as is evinced by his bequests.
Mary Munn Catlin— He left a certain sum to the poor of
Mercy Catlin Arms— Great Milton, and also for the repair-
John Arms— ing of the church. He married Oct.
Martha Arms— 19, 1555, Katherine Hester. Thomas
Parsons died, and was buried at Great
Milton, May 23, 1597. He was our seventh Great-grand-
father.

Hugh, son of Thomas and Katherine Hester Parsons,

PARSONS

was baptized in Great Millon, England, 1563. He removed from there to Sandford, where the entries respecting the baptisms of his children are found.

His Will was proved in Oxford, in 1643.

The name of his wife is unknown.

Hugh Parsons was our sixth Great-grandfather.

Benjamin, son of Hugh Parsons, was born in Sanford, England. He emigrated to America, and was an early settler of Springfield, where he became a prominent citizen.

Benjamin Parsons was a gentleman of exemplary character, of great worth, and respectability. He was a deacon of the Springfield church, and the chief instrument in its formation, as appears from his correspondence with the Rev. Dr. Increase Mather. In the civil affairs of the town, no man held more responsible offices, or discharged them with greater fidelity.

Benjamin Parsons married Nov. 6, 1653, Sarah, daughter of Richard Dore of Windsor, Conn.

Deacon Parsons died in Springfield, Aug. 24, 1689.

His estate was valued 222 Pounds, 9 Shillings.

He is our fifth Great-grandfather.

PARSONS

Abigail, daughter of Benjamin and Sarah Dore Parsons, was born in Springfield, Jan. 6, 1662. She married John Munn, Dec. 23, 1680.

Abigail Parsons Munn was our fourth Great-grand-mother.

Sarah Vore

*Wife of Benjamin Parsons
Great-great-grandmother of Mercy Catlin
Wife of Consider Arms*

Richard Voare came from England to Dorchester, Mass.,
 Sarah Vore Parsons— at the beginnings of that town in
 Abigail Parsons Munn— 1630. From there, in a few years,
 Benjamin Munn— he removed to Windsor, Conn., with
 Mary Munn Catlin— Rev. Mr. Warham.
 Mercy Catlin Arms— He was a member of the first
 John Arms— Congregational church at Windsor,
 Martha Arms— which has had a continuous existence
 for 274 years. It was organized
 at Plymouth, England, 1630, after the members of the
 colony (of which Richard Voare undoubtedly was one) had
 gathered at that port ready to embark upon the "Mary and
 John," which good ship that bore so many of our ancestors, sail-
 ed two weeks before the remainder of Gov. Winthrop's fleet.

VORE

This West country people, as the Governor calls them, were mostly from the parts about Dorchester, England.

Roger Clap, in his Memoirs, tells of the first organizing of this church with John Warham as pastor, in the new Hospital, in Plymouth, England, 1630. From this beginning the church has gone on, until to-day, without suspension, or reorganization, worshipping together for two months on ship-board while crossing the Atlantic, then for five years or more, in Dorchester, Mass., when it moved in body with its pastor, Mr. Warham, to Windsor, Conn.

Richard Vore's name appears on the Windsor town records in 1640, as having a lot granted him, 5 yards wide. This lot is now occupied by the Academy building.

He died at Windsor, Nov. 22, 1683.

His wife, Anne ———, died two weeks after.

He had four daughters, two of whom married our ancestors, making him our sixth Great-grandfather on both sides, Arms and Graves.

VORE

Sarah, daughter of Richard and Anne ——— Dore, was born in England. She accompanied her father in 1635 from Dorchester, Mass., to Windsor, Conn., and later, became the wife of Benjamin Parsons.

She died at Springfield, Jan. 1, 1676.

Sarah Dore Parsons was our fifth Great-grandmother.

Thankful Nims

*Wife of Benjamin Munn
Grandmother of Mercy Catlin
Wife of Consider Arms*

Godfrey Nims, our ancestor, is first heard of, as a Thankful Nims Munn—"lad" in trouble, at Northampton, Mary Munn Catlin— 1667.

Mercy Catlin Arms— On the morning of Sept. 24th,
John Arms— 1667, when the County Court began
Martha Arms— its Fall session at Springfield, a constable appeared, leading three youths, who had been sent from Northampton, to be tried and sentenced in Springfield. "One Godfrey Nims, aged about 17, the eldest of the three," was the ringleader, and he "hath conspired with the others to run away to Canidy, under the guidance of a drunken Indian varlet, who hath been hanging about Northampton, of late. . . ."

The Story is told in the Town Records.

"Three lads are accused by Robert Bartlett (our ancestor), for that they got into his house two Sabbath days, when all the family were at the Publike Meeting. On ye first of which times, they viz,—Nims, and Stebbins, did ransack about the house, and took away out of divers places of the house, viz,—24 shillings in silver, and 7 shillings in wampum, with intention to run away to the french; all which is by them confessed. . . ."

The two other boys escaped punishment, but Godfrey Nims paid the penalty of his misdeeds at the whipping post in front of the Meeting house.

Poor Godfrey! Doubtless he was a disorderly fellow, yet in defense of this ancestor, we may say that he was without the good influences of a home life. There is no evidence of his having father or mother, kith or kin in Northampton.

An active and excitable boy, his surplus energy restless under the strict Puritan rule, he fell in with the Indian vagrant, by whose tales of adventure his soul was fired to daring and reckless deeds.

We note with satisfaction, that sometime later, the Indian Onequelett, "was whipt 20 lashes for helping Godfrey Nims, and benoni S—about running away to Canada. . ."

May 18, 1676, Godfrey Nims is found among the volunteers from Northampton, gathered at Hatfield, awaiting the order to march against King Philip's horde, for it was

NIMS

now "the general voyce of the people, that it was time to disturb the enemy, and drive them from their fishing, at Peskeompskut" (Turners Falls). Our reckless Grandfather, Godfrey Nims, was one of the heroes of the Falls Fight.

Family tradition places Godfrey Nims as one of the three first settlers of Deerfield, before 1671. At his first coming, he built a "sort of a house where he had dug a hole or cellar in the side hill."

But, in 1674, he married Mary Miller (Williams), whose husband was killed at Bloody Brook, and at that time bought a homelot. Godfrey Nims, cordwainer, he is called in the records, and he became an industrious and law-abiding citizen.

He was the first Constable of the town, being chosen in 1689, and later held other town offices, Selectman, tax-collector; also on School committee and Committee of highways.

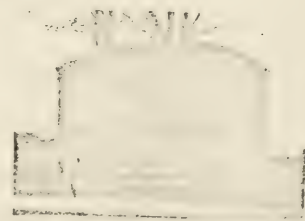
On the morning of Aug. 21, 1695, four men started together, for mutual protection, to go to the mill, three miles away, at Mill River. The result is given in the Records.

"Joseph Barnard, Henry White, Philip Mattoon, and Godfrey Nims, going to mill, came to the place abt ye drain, and ye horses snuffing, and being frighlened, one of ym cryd

out 'Indians, Indians!' an ye turned about, and ye Indians
fird upon ym, and wounded Mr. Barnard in left hand
(one wrist broke to pieces) and one bullet in ye body,
and his horse shot down, and then Nims took him up, and
his horse was shot down, and then he was mounted behind
Mattoon, and came of home. . . . '2 -

Joseph Barnard died a few weeks later. The stone
marking his grave bears the earliest date of any in the old
Deerfield burying-ground.

In 1692, on his second marriage, Godfrey Nims bought
the lot, upon a part of which Memorial Hall now stands,
and built a house, which was burned Jan. 4, 1694. His
little step son perished in the flames. The finding of the
jury at the inquest, reads:



Memorial Hall.

"The said Jeremiah Hull, being put to bed in a
chamber with another child, after some time, Henry, said
Godfrey Nims's son, a boy about ten years of age, went into
the chamber with a light, and by accident, fired some flax or
tow, which fired the house. Said Henry brought down one
child, and going up again to fetch sd Jeremiah, the chamber
was all aflame, and before other help came, said Jeremiah
was past recovery. . . ."

March 3, 1701, Godfrey Nims was one three chosen to

lay out a road. This road the river has washed away. They also reported upon a road, which is now the Main Street of Greenfield.

Oct. 8, 1703, two young men, Godfrey Nims's son, brother to our grandmother Thankful, and step-son, probably looking after their milch cows, feeding on the common, were surprized, captured, and taken to Canada, by the Indians.

Rev. Solomon Stoddard writes to Gov. Dudley, of Massachusetts:

"Oct. 1703.

"Since I wrote, the father of the two captives, Godfrey Nims, belonging to Deerfield, has importunately desired me to write to your Excy, that you would endeavour the Redemption of his children.

"I request that if you have any opportunity, you would not be backward to such a work of mercy. . . ."

The night of Feb. 29, 1704, the village of Deerfield lay buried in snow, the people asleep. On what a wreck the morning broke! In the south east angle of the fort, Godfrey Nims' house was burning. Three of his little girls, somewhere dead, among the embers; his daughter and her baby slain by the tomahawk; his 17 year old son, his step-daugh-

er, aged 16, his wife, with Abigail, their youngest child, about four years old, already on their march to Canada.

We wonder did Godfrey Nims, in those hours of horror, remember how in his boyhood he had "plotted to run away to the French" with Onequellatt, the Indian? Four days later, his wife, being feeble and unable to keep up with the other captives in their cruel march, was put to death.

Abigail grew up in Canada, and there married one of her fellow captives. A few years ago, an evergreen tree was brought from their home, and is now growing on the old homelot of Godfrey Nims' by Memorial Hall.

Godfrey Nims did not long survive his terrible losses. We do not know the exact date of his death, but the Inventory of his estate was taken March 12, 1704, and he was buried in the old Deerfield cemetery.

Godfrey Nims was our fourth Great-grandfather.

Thankful, daughter of Godfrey and Mary Miller Nims, was born Aug. 29, 1684. She was but four years old, when her mother died, and a girl of nine years when their first home in Deerfield, was burned.

NIMS

Jan. 15, 1702, Thankful Nims, aged 18, was married to Benjamin Munn.

The home to which he took his bride is described as a half underground house, and on the night of the Deerfield massacre, was so covered with snow, it escaped notice, and Thankful, with her little baby, remained undisturbed, their lives preserved, when almost every other member of her family was killed or captured.

Thankful Nims was the mother of eleven children.

She died July 11, 1746, aged 62.

Thankful Nims Munn was our third Great-grandmother.

*MARBLE TABLET ON THE WALL OF MEMORIAL
HALL, DEERFIELD, MASS.:*

GODFREY NIMS

Ancestor of the NIMS family,
in America. Settled at
POCUMTUCK, before Philip's
War. A soldier under Capt.
Turner, at the Falls Fight.
1676. Prominent in the civil
affairs of Deerfield.

In 1692, he bought the home
lot where his life's tragedies
were enacted, and upon
which, stands this Memorial
Hall.

In honor of
Godfrey Nims and Mary Miller,
his wife, this marble is
here placed by
FRANKLIN ASA NIMS.
Greeley, Colorado.
1903.

Mary Miller

Wife of Godfrey Nims

Great-Grandmother of Mercy Catlin

Wife of Consider Arms

William Miller, our fifth Great-grandfather, is first Mary Miller Nims— heard of in Ipswich, Mass., in 1648. Thankful Nims Munn— He was one of the four of our ancestors, to sign the original petition of Mary Munn Catlin— Mercy Catlin Arms— 1653, to “plant, possess, and inhabit John Arms— Northampton.” (There were 8 signers Martha Arms— to this petition.)

He came to Northampton in 1655.

In the vicinity of what was called “forlorn land,” in Northampton, north of Hazeley lane, was the place called “Miller’s lion’s den”; so named in deeds. It belonged to William Miller, who owned the lot. The catamount, or panther, was the lion of the Indians, and from a den once occupied by these animals on Miller’s land, the name origi-

MILLER

nated. Very few "lions were seen after the settlement commenced."

William Miller was a member of the first board of Townsmen in Northampton, chosen 1655. He signed with Robert Bartlett, John Stebbins, Thomas and Joseph Roote (all our ancestors), the first petition toward obtaining a minister, and also to prevent "excess of liquor in coming to our town, and of sider. . . ."

He contributed 6 acres of land to be divided among new and desirable settlers. He was a tanner by trade.

THE FOUNDING OF NORTHFIELD, MASS.

William Miller was very active in the settling of Northfield. Our ancestors bore a very prominent part in the founding of this beautiful town now so well known.

The first tract of land there, was conveyed to our Graves ancestor, Cornet Joseph Parsons. The deed was signed in 1671, by six Indians. The tract here conveyed, covered the original, and present township of Northfield, and contained in all, over 10,000 acres.

The second purchase, 1673, comprised 3,000 acres, and was made out to Joseph Parsons, again, and another Graves ancestor, William Clark. For this they paid 200 fathoms of wampum. This deed was signed by four Indians, and witnessed by our sixth Great-grandmother, Sarah Clark.

The founding of a new plantation, by a small colony on a frontier, so far from help, was a bold push. None but earnest, devoted, brave men and women, would have taken this perilous step.

Deerfield, the nearest settlement, planted but two years before, was yet feeble, and was 16 miles distant, intercommunication being most difficult. Hadley, to which they must look for aid, in case of need, was 30 miles away.

Having purchased the land, they drew up a petition, in 1671, to the General Court, for rights to settle. This first petition, which was refused, was signed by eight of ancestors. Five of these, were on the Arms side:

WILLIAM MILLER.

WILLIAM SMEAD.

JOHN STEBBINS.

JOSEPH KELLOGG.

ISAAC SHELDON.

MILLER

The second petition, which was successful, was signed in 1672, by:

*WILLIAM MILLER,
Elder JOHN STRONG,
WILLIAM SMEAD,
ISAAC SHELDON,
and two of our Graves ancestors.*

The General Court appointed five men "to lay out the said plantation, to admit inhabitants, to grant lots, and order all the prudential affairs of said village, and all at the charge of said undertakers, and to take special care that a godly preacher be placed there, as soon as there are 20 families settled, and this power of the committee is to continue until the Court takes further notice. . . ."

Four out of the five of this important Committee were our Graves ancestors:

*Sergt. ISAAK GRAVES,
Lieut. WILLIAM CLARK,
Lieut. SAMUEL SMITH,
Cornet WILLIAM ALLIS.*

Under this appointment, three of the Committee, Isaac Graves, William Clark and William Allis, went out to Squak-

MILLER

heag, (Northfield), in the Fall of 1672, with two of the "engagers," and laid out the township.

Two of our Arms ancestors, William Miller and William Smead, were among the very earliest to settle and make their home here.

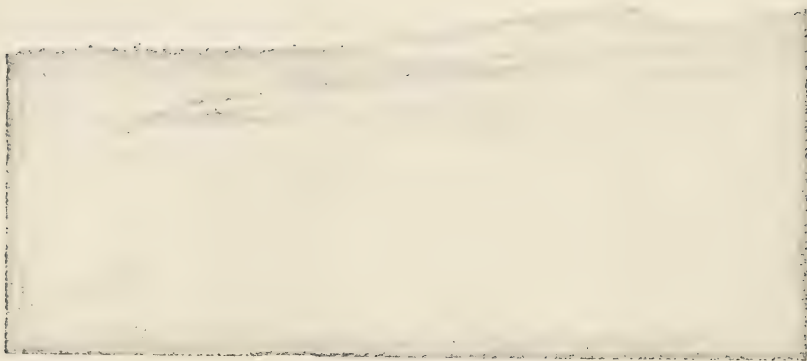
The town was destroyed by Indians, in 1675, and was not resettled until ten years later, 1685. In the meantime, two members in charge of the plantation had died: Isaac Graves and William Allis.

Ensign John Lyman, our Graves ancestor, was placed on the managing committee. The number of families that went upon the plantation at the second settlement, was much smaller than had been expected, not over 20.

The terrible remembrance of the former attempt was fresh in the minds of the survivors, and they were slow to repeat the risk. The temptation of abundance of land and a pleasant dwelling-place, was off-set by the perils of frontier exposure, and distance from help.

William Miller was one of the few resolute men, named in the records, who dared to face the dangers of this second attempt to settle Northfield. In 1688, we find him holding important offices there. Our Arms ancestors, Samuel Boltwood and Isaac Warner, also had a part in this resettlement.

Again, the settlement was broken up by a raid of



The Northfield Meadows.

Indians, with loss of life. We remember being driven over these meadows by Dwight L. Moody, when, with a wave of his hand, he said, "Here, was the great Indian Fight!" How little we realized at the time, the great part our ancestors had in this fight!

The permanent settlement of the town took place in 1714. The town was then named Northfield, because it was the most northerly settlement on the Connecticut river, at that time.

When William Miller married his wife, Patience ———, we do not know, but she must have been a very interesting Grandmother, for Temple and Sheldon in their History of Northfield, place her at the head of the list of Northfield physicians, and say that she was the first, and only doctor of Northfield in both its first and second settlements. "A skillful physician and surgeon. . . ."

She died March 16, 1716, long surviving her husband, whose death is recorded in Northampton, July 15, 1690. That year, many of the older and most eminent citizens of Northampton, died in an epidemic of "agues and fevers." William Miller was one of these.

MILLER

Mary, daughter of William and Patience ——— Miller,
married Nov. 26, 1677, Godfrey Nims.

She died April 27, 1688.

Mary Miller Nims was our fourth Great-grandmother.

Robert Boltwood

Our fifth Great-grandfather.

Robert Boltwood probably came from Essex County, Samuel Boltwood— England, where the name existed as Solomon Boltwood, 1st— early as the reign of Edward 1st, Solomon Boltwood, 2d— 1273. He is first named on Connecticut Records in 1648. He lived Martha Boltwood— in Wethersfield, and was made Martha Arms— Freeman there in 1658. (Only members of the church could be made Freemen.) Recorded in ancient Wethersfield, in the list of lands purchased directly from the Indians, is "Rechauns grant to Robert Boltwood, of lands near Nipsic pond."

In April, 1659, a settlement was begun at Norwolluck (Hadley, Mass). To this enterprise Wethersfield contributed about one-third of her pioneer settlers. Of the fifteen who went from there in 1659, eight were our ancestors, Robert Boltwood being among them.

He was an enterprising man, and seemed to have a

great deal to do with real estate. Recorded on the town records of Sunderland, we find the following, dated 1675, of which we can but wish that we owned the original. An Indian Deed of land of the native town of our fathers, made out to two of our ancestors, would be a treasure indeed.

DEED OF SWAMPFIELD, OR SUNDERLAND

On the 10th of April, 1674, John Pyncheon, acting in behalf of Robert Boltwood, Joseph Kellogg, John Hubbard, and Thomas Dickinson of Hadley, and their associates, bought of several Indians all the land from Nepesanoeg brook, now Mohawk brook, next to Hadley bounds, up to the brook called Papacontuckquash, over against the mouth of Pocomtuck (Deerfield river), and six miles easterly from the Connecticut into the woods.

Two deeds were given, one by Mishaliask, an old woman, the mother of Wuttawchincksin, deceased, who owed Pyncheon; and one by Metawompe, alias Nattawwassawett, for himself, and in behalf of Wadanummin, Squiskeag, and Sunk-amachue, for 80 fathoms of Wampum and some small things.

The lands were in Sunderland, Montague, and Leverett.

BOLTWOOD

The Indians belonged to the Norwollucks. Pyncheon paid for the lands, and the Hadley men paid him and his son 26 Pounds.

"Among the 11 wolf-killers in Hadley, from 1668-1672, were Robert and his son Samuel Boltwood."

Robert Boltwood married Mary ———. She died in 1687. They had four daughters and one son.

Robert Boltwood died April 6, 1684.

He was our fifth Great-grandfather.

Samuel, only son of Robert and Mary ——— Boltwood, born 1656, was a man of remarkable strength and bravery. He was a Sergeant, and was in the Falls Fight with 11 other of our ancestors, 1676.

He was stationed at Deerfield at the time of the sack of that village by the French and Indians. He and his son, Robert, were among the nine killed in the "Meadow Fight," that followed it, Feb. 29, 1704. The soldiers rushed out of the fort, forcing the enemy out of the town, but being greatly outnumbered by the enemy, the nine were killed on

'BOLTWOOD

the meadows. His oldest son, Samuel, was wounded in the arm.

Samuel Boltwood married Sarah, daughter of Capt. William Lewis of Farmington. They had nine children.

He was our fourth Great-grandfather.

THE STORY OF THE 'BOLTWOOD MILL.

Edward Hopkins after residing some years at Hartford, returned to England and died in 1657. By his will he gave a portion of his estate in New England, "to give some encouragement to the breeding up of hopeful youths in a way of learning, both at the Grammar School, and college, for the public service of the country in future times."

The amount of the Legacy was 1200 Pounds; Hadley received 308. Mr. Goodwin, with the consent of the other Trustees (of the Hopkins Fund) our sixth Great-grandfather on the Nash side, Nathaniel Dickenson, being one of them, built from the Hopkins donation a Grist Mill (as an income for the Fund) a little south of the school lands. It was burned by the Indians in Sept., 1677.

The Trustees of the school declined to rebuild, not having sufficient means, and apprehending danger from the

BOLTWOOD

Indians. The town needed a Mill, and as Robert Boltwood was not afraid of Indians, a majority of the Trustees were induced to dispose of the right belonging to the school to the town, for 10 Pounds, and the town to encourage Boltwood to build a Mill, granted to him the Mill place, Nov. 6, 1677, and 4 acres and a house lot for the miller.

The mill was rebuilt by Boltwood in 1678 or 9.

Mr. Russell, pastor, always solicitous for the prosperity of the Grammar School, did not consent to the sale of the Mill place and dam. In 1680 he presented to the County court of Northampton what had been done by the other Trustees, the town and Boltwood.

The court decided that the sale by the trustees was illegal. "We may not allow so great a wrong." They judged that Goodman Boltwood should be repaid for what he had expended and that the Mill should belong to the school.

The Boltwoods, father and son, were resolute men, and tenacious of their rights, but they did not like contention, and Aug. 8, 1683, Robert Boltwood agreed to surrender the mill and appurtenances to the school committee, and they were to pay him 138 Pounds in grain and pork.

They took possession in 1683. In the year 1684, they found that the town challenged some right to the stream and land, and there were other difficulties, and they refused to consummate the bargain. The Committee and Samuel Bolt-

BOLTWOOD

wood (Robert died 1684) referred the matter to John Pyncheon and John Allis, and in consequence of their decision, March 30, 1685, the mill was delivered up to Samuel Boltwood, about May 1, 1685.

1686, Mr. Russell gave his opinion in favor of the Grammar School, as opposed to a majority who wished simply an English school. A town meeting was ordered at sun a quarter of an hour high, the next morning. It must have been a lively time in Old Hadley when a town meeting was held "at sun a quarter of an hour high in the morning."

The school Committee were present and gave their reasons why this Estate should remain to support the Grammar School, and the town's committee (Ensign Timothy Nash, our fifth Great-grandfather) read two or three long papers in reply.

These things, and many more, are stated in a letter to the President and council, dated Nov. 20, 1686. They request that some speedy course may be taken by the council for quieting "the hot and raised spirit" of the people of Hadley.

The following order was issued: "That the said court do find out and order some method for the payment of Boltwood's expenses upon the mill; that the mill, farm and other lands given to the School may return to that public use."

BOLTWOOD

At a new County court held at Northampton, 1687, Samuel Boltwood was summoned to appear and show cause why he detained the mill. He presented a paper giving a regular account of his father's building and selling the mill, and of the award of Pyncheon and Allis, which put the mill into his (Samuel Boltwood's) hands.

Referring to the award, he says, "it seems rational, especially for those who profess religion, to stand by what was done, or make good their bond. What is my just right I plead for, and no other."

The court ordered that the persons in Hadley who had taken the school Estate into their hands for an English school, to return it speedily to the former committee, the feofees of the Grammar School.

They also ordered that Samuel Boltwood should deliver up the school-mill and appurtenances to the same feofees for the maintenance of the school. If the feoffee and Boltwood could not agree as to what had been expended on the mill by him and his father, the toll being considered, then Mr. John Allis and a man chosen by the feofees, and another chosen by Boltwood, were to give in their award and determine what Boltwood should have for the mill.

The town yielded, Samuel Boltwood gave up the mill to the trustees of the school in 1687, and arbitrators decided, April 26, 1688, that he should be allowed 71 pounds

BOLTWOOD

and 10 shillings for what his father and he had expended about the mill. Of which sum he had received all but 9 pounds.

There is no reason to condemn the motives of those concerned in these unpleasant contentions. The Grammar School was a favorite object with Mr. Russell, and he probably looked forward to a more elevated institution.

The people of Hadley are not censurable, because they judged it inexpedient to sustain a Grammar School after the Hopkins donation was almost all consumed or scattered. They had not families enough to require such a school under the law.

Solomon, son of Samuel and Sarah (Lewis) Boltwood, was born July 2, 1694. He married Mary, daughter of John Norton, of Farmington, Conn. They had six children, three sons and three daughters.

The Boltwoods were among the earliest settlers in the eastern part of Hadley (afterwards Amherst). They were men of note, prominent in public affairs, and the name of Boltwood appears frequently on town and district records. Solomon Boltwood came to the new settlement as early as

BOLTWOOD

1737, where he built the house in 1745, called the old Boltwood House.

As a result of a scouting expedition to the north (in the French wars) in Oct., 1747, a law suit was brought up by Ephraim Kellogg, against Lieut. Solomon Boltwood, which was among the celebrated cases of the time.

Lieut. Boltwood was ordered to go with a detachment of men to the relief of the people on the northern frontiers who had been assaulted by the enemy. The order was given by Lieut. J. Smith of Hadley, who procured Kellogg's mare for Boltwood to ride on.

Soon after Kellogg sued Boltwood, claiming that the latter had rode the mare so severely, she was in a great measure ruined.

The matter came before the court, and a great mass of evidence was taken. Among the witnesses was Israel Hubbard, who testified as follows:

"In October, I happened to be at the house of Charles Wright, when Mr. Solomon Boltwood and company returned from up the country, and there I heard one of the company selling forth how exceeding quick they came from Sunderland. Although I cannot speak positively concerning the number of minutes, yet I well remember it was above 26 miles; the space rode, was four mile in ten minutes, and I went out of the

BOLTWOOD

house and viewed the horses, and found that they sweat exceedingly, and smoked very much."

A mare that could cover 4 miles of poor roadway in 10 minutes must have been considered a very valuable animal in those days, and it is small wonder that her owner desired a round sum to recompense him for "her ruin."

But Lieut. Smith testified for the defense, his evidence going to show the mare was little injured. His testimony was in brief, that he was the officer that sent out the party for the relief of the frontiers. Mr. Solomon Boltwood was the head of the party, and rode upon E. Kellogg's mare. After their return, Kellogg complained that the mare was hurt, but he, Smith, "took notice of her from time to time and never saw her otherwise in appearance than sound or well, and she had afterwards a likely coll."

The case was before the courts for a long time, was left out to arbitrators, and finally settled by agreement.

In 1745, Solomon Boltwood, was on a committee to lay out the streets and highways, and on the Meeting house seating committee, in 1749. In 1748, on a committee to build a cart bridge over Fort River, with John Nash. (Here he is called Mr. Solomon Boltwood).



The Old Bollwood House
Amherst. Mass.
174.5.

BOLTWOOD

In the list of Amherst residents who had 100 Pounds, or more, at interest is Solomon Boltwood, credited with 300 Pounds, 8 cows, and 35 sheep.

Lieut. Solomon Boltwood died at Amherst, April 20, 1762.

He was our third Great-grandfather.

Solomon B.

THE OLD BOLTWOOD HOUSE, AMHERST, MASS.

We wandered down Amily Street in the summer of 1904, asking no questions, for we wanted to see if family instinct might not lead us to the old Boltwood Homestead. We stopped before a house, not unlike the Nehemiah Strong house on the same street, and concluded we would venture to make an inquiry there.

A sweet faced woman opened the door and welcomed us into the little narrow hall, with the winding stairway, but a step from the door. She told us we were right in our sur-

BOLTWOOD

mise, that this was the Boltwood House, built by Solomon, 1st, in 1745.

When we told her that we were his descendants, she gave us the coveted opportunity of a trip through the quaint old house, with its uneven floors, and very low ceilings, and general look of antiquity.

Built on a corner lot, beautiful for situation; with its western windows looking out upon the Holyoke range, and Sugar Loaf and Toby, in the dim distance. It interested us to see that the Boltwoods must have loved these dear old hills, even as did our fathers and grandfathers on the Graves side, and chose to build where they could look out upon them, even though by so doing, they were more exposed to the winter's blasts.

We wondered why they built such low ceilings, for the Boltwoods were not a small race, and must have seen the Strong house complete, with more breathing space. The Boltwoods were the richest family in Amherst, at that time, but the interior of the house is not nearly as fine as that of the Strong's. The long, sloping roof gives it an older look.

Solomon, 2d, son of Solomon and Mary Norton Boltwood, was born Dec. 26, 1727. He resided in Amherst, probably in the old Boltwood house.

BOLTWOOD

He married Aug. 29, 1751, Mary, daughter of Nehemiah Strong. They had ten children.

In 1770, Solomon Boltwood, 2d, was the largest property owner in the district, his estate being rated at 228 Pounds. He was Selectman in 1770.

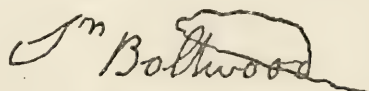
Solomon, 2d, and his son Ebenezer (who was a graduate of Harvard College) were among the earliest merchants, or traders, as they were called, of Amherst.

The Bible owned by Solomon Boltwood, 1st, is still in our family, and in it he has recorded the births of his children. On the inside of the cover, Solomon Boltwood, 2d, has written:

"This Book was my honored father's.

When he had done with it, he gave it me, his son
Solomon Boltwood"

"March 1776, Then I gave this book to my son Solomon,
as witness my hand


March 1776

"I pray that God would give him grace
There in to look; that he may run that blessed race
That Heaven may be his Dwelling-Place"

BOLTWOOD

Solomon, 3d, to whom he gave the book, was our great-uncle, who was killed in the raising of the new Hatfield bridge. From him, as he had no children, it passed to our uncle, Solomon Boltwood Arms.

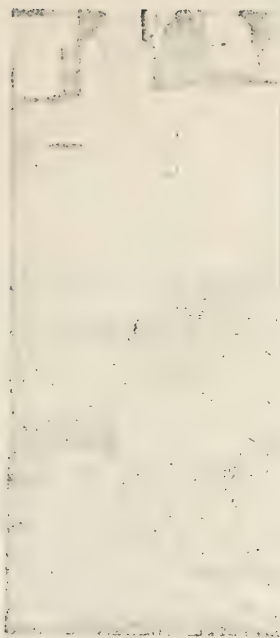
Lieut. Solomon Boltwood, 2d, died May 17, 1777.

He was our second Great-grandfather.

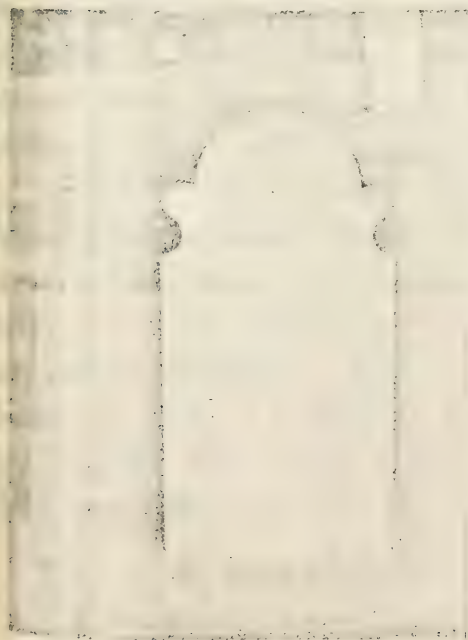
Samuel, son of Solomon, 2d, and Mary Strong Boltwood, was born June 12, 1754.

He married Judith Nash. They had only two children, Martha and Elijah.

Samuel Boltwood lived in Amherst and Conway.



Lieut. Solomon Bolt
A

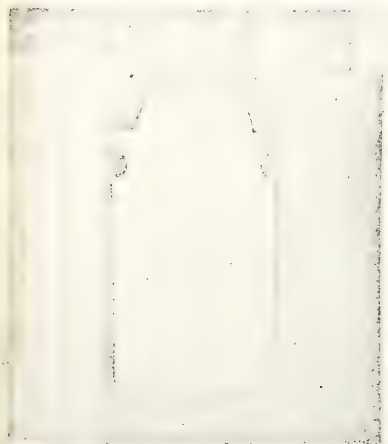


Lieut. Solomon Boltwo
Ane

Graves Of Our Boltwood Ancestors
 Ancestral Burying Ground



Lieut. Solomon Boltwood
 And His Wife Mary Norton Boltwood.



Lieut. Solomon Boltwood 2d
 And His Wife - Mary Strong Boltwood.

THE STORY OF THE IMPRISONMENT OF THE AMHERST TORIES

Half of Amherst were Tories or neutrals. Among the most prominent of these were Judge Simeon Strong, the minister, Solomon Boltwood, 2d, and Samuel Boltwood.

We find that "at a meeting for the several towns, viz.—Sunderland, Shutesbury and Leverett, by request of the Committee of safety, together with the militia officers of the town of Amherst, to advise with, and take into consideration, the 'Dangerous situation of that town, together with the States of America, from a number of persons in the aforesaid town, who are suspected to be Enemies to the American States. After examining the following persons before this body, viz,"—Samuel Boltwood, and his brother Ebenezer, Judge Simeon Strong, their uncle, John Nash, Samuel's father-in-law, our Great-great-grandfather, and several others; "It is our opinion that all the above mentioned persons, are all unfriendly to their country, and ought to be esteemed as such; it is therefore the steadfast resolve of this Body, that the above named persons be confined all together, at the house Mr. John Field now dwells in, with a Sufficient

BOLTWOOD

Guard to attend them. On their own cost, they may have license if they please to attend publick worship, under said Guard.

“It is also resolved that all and every of the above named persons, make an immediate surrender of their Fire arms, powder, Ball, Sword, Bayonet, Cutlass, and every war-like implement that may be of quick and Dangerous use, into the hands of this body, or their committee chosen for that purpose, to be kept and justly appraised with the owner's name, and exact account of every utensil Delivered to said Committee to be kept till further orders; We are also of the opinion that not any of the above named persons, or any belonging to their families, be allowed to keep a house of entertainment; if they do they will incur the Displeasure of this body. . . .”

We do not know how long this confinement was imposed, but think that the following petition from the imprisoned men, was presented a month later:

“To the Honored Council of the State of Massachusetts Bay; Humbly shows the subscribers to be inhabitants of the Town of Amherst, and now prisoners in close confinement in said Amherst, by order of a Body of people from several towns lately assembled there. On the 25th of August

we were required to appear before them assembled at the Meeting House, and having accordingly appeared, we were soon ordered under guard, and after some time of confinement, brought separately before the same people and demanded of, in the name of the Body, by one who officiated as chairman, to make direct answer to this question, viz.

“‘Are you desirous to be independent of the Crown of Great Britian? According to the Declaration of Congress passed in the year 1776?’

“To which some of us answered expressly in the negative. Others answered that having been present at the meeting that was called by order of the Gen. Court, for collecting the sentiments of the People, they did not vote for Independence, because they were not of the opinion that it would be for the interest of the country. Another question was then commonly pul, ‘Have you altered your opinions since?’ (1777) - which was answered in the negative; whereupon each one was remanded into confinement.

“We hereby inform your Honors, that we know of no matter, true or alleged against us, as the cause of our confinement; but what is above expressed; That we are not called upon by the people assembled, to answer to any matter of charge, nor accused of having done, or attempted anything, against the interest of the States, and that when any of us alleged that whatever were our Private Sentiments re-

BOLTWOOD

specting the war, we had done our full proportion in the expense of the war, no one appeared to contradict or deny it.

"Having made this, our representation to your Honors, we beg your kind attention to our situation, and circumstances, and that your Honors, in your Wisdom, and Justice, would be pleased to grant us all that Relief and Liberty, which our past conduct, which we trust has been innocent, and inoffensive, affords us grounds to hope and expect, and as in duty bound shall pray. . . .

"Amherst, Aug. 29, 1777."

Signed, by Samuel Boltwood, our Great-grandfather, and John Nash, our Great-great-grandfather, with others.

After the Revolution, we find our Great-grandfather, Samuel Boltwood, active in support of his country. In 1786, during the Shay rebellion he was in the Amherst Company, who served in the defense of the Government at Springfield, under Capt. Cook

Samuel Boltwood, died March 2, 1808, aged 53.

Sam^l Boltwood



THE BOLTWOOD TAVERN SIGN

A search in Amherst for the old homes of the Boltwood ancestors, led us into the little, interesting back room of the Nehemiah Strong homestead. There our eager hands seized upon the huge old sign, all that is left of one of Amherst's most interesting landmarks, the Boltwood Tavern.

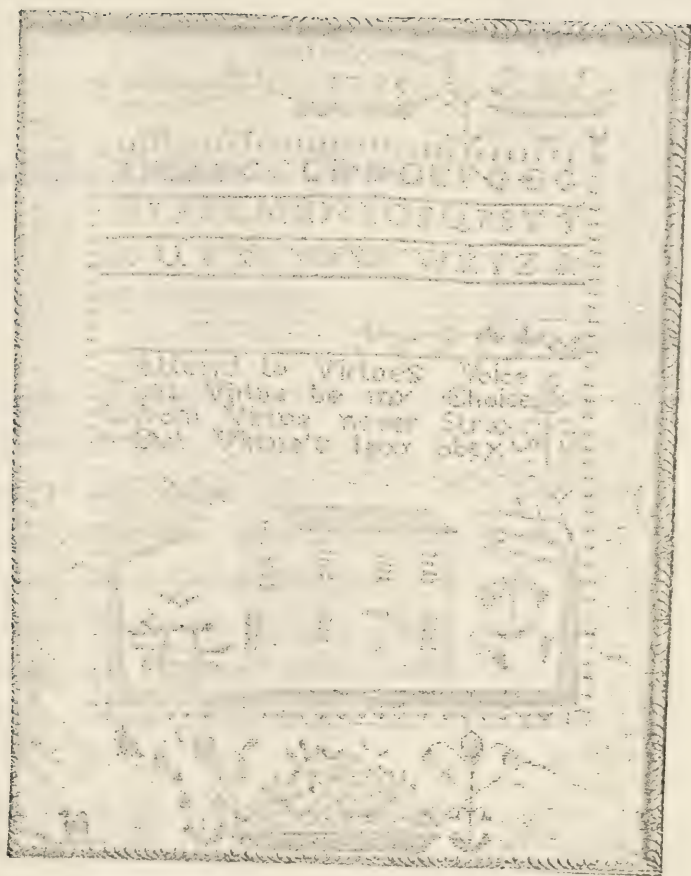
"The tavern was painted yellow, and from a stout post in front, was suspended the old Sign," on one side, the picture of a tavern, on the other, this remarkable old lion.

BOLTWOOD

Our grandmother's only brother, Elijah Boltwood, kept this tavern, and through him (as he died a widower, without children) came to the Conway home many of the old pieces of china and furniture. We remember, as children, the awe with which we looked upon his coffin-plate, still preserved by our own uncle Elijah, who was his namesake.

This little sketch of our great-uncle Elijah, taken from the History of Amherst, will, we are sure, remind the family of that namesake, "Uncle Lige," so beloved by us all:

"Elijah Boltwood, was a kind hearted man, and universal favorite. A married man, but having no children, he was known to nearly every one, as 'Uncle Elijah.' He dearly loved a joke, possessing also the rare quality of appreciation, when the joke was at his expense. Generous almost to a fault, he sought abundance, ease, and comfort, rather than profit. As one still living, who knew him, has happily expressed it—'He, in some way, bridged the gap between the different classes.'"



Our Grandmothers Sampler

BOLTWOOD

Martha Boltwood Arms

Our Grandmother

Martha, daughter of Samuel and Judith (Nash) Boltwood, was born in Amherst, Mass., Dec. 4, 1778. Her early life was spent in Amherst, and in the house near the Baptist church, in Conway, where "our Grandfather courted her."

She was called "pretty Patty Boltwood," having blue eyes, and curling brown hair, with regular features, and rosy cheeks. Her husband said she was "more beautiful than any of her nine daughters, though Aunt Julia, (Mrs. Ives) looked the most like her."

She married, when 22 years old, John Arms, Jan. 23, 1800. He was 26 years of age at this time and took his bride to the home he had built in 1794. When the house was repaired, this date was found on one of the old beams.

Here, their fourteen children were born, in addition to whom they adopted an orphan niece, Sophia, who afterwards married Dr. Hawkes.

We only remember our grandmother when her days of

activity were over; when she loved to sit near the large open wood fire, with her little work basket by her side, knitting the many pairs of stockings, for which Aunt Dorrie spun the yarn, and telling us children tales of the past.

The basket, she used to tell, to our great interest, was given her by her first lover, Israel, brother of our grandfather, who was killed by a fall from his horse. She used to say that just before his death, he told his brother John to marry "Patty," and they both paid tribute to her first love, by naming their first son, Israel.

Her life was full of active work, bringing up her large family; she not only made their clothes, but wove the cloth of which they were made.

Very strong was the affection between our grandparents. They would always sit side by side at the dining room table. Great was her husband's confidence in her. Twenty or more years before his death, he wrote a Will, from which—though it was replaced by a later one—we give an extract, showing his trust in her ability to care for their large family:

"If it shall be my fortune soon, to pass from my present, to another state of existence, it would in my opinion best promote the welfare of my numerous family of children, several of whom are minors, that an immediate, distribution of my

estate among these, should not be made, and having confidence in the judgment, discretion, and good management of my partner, her affection and regard for our children, and their best interests; being at least equal to my own, the younger part of whom will for some time need, and require the kind and tender care and discretion of an affectionate mother, I do therefore give, bequeath and devise, unto my affectionate wife, Martha Arms, all my goods, cattle, lands and tenements, and estate whatsoever, both real and personal, wheresoever, the same be situated, to have and hold the same to her and her heirs forever.

“I trust and believe that my four sons, and nine daughters, *Viz*—Israel, Solomon B., John, Elijah, Wealthy Coffin, Dorothy, Judith Nash Burke, Julia Ann, Martha, Catherine Callin, Mary Jane, Cornelia, and Caroline, will be satisfied that I considered such a disposition of my property as I have herein before directed, as the best possible course I could take for the general benefit of the family, and the uncertainty which must necessarily attend the time of exit, and I do not doubt but that they all collectively, and severally, will rely with equal confidence with my self, that what ever disposition their kind and affectionate mother shall, or may hereafter make thereof, the same will be done with a kind regard to the best promotion of their general welfare, and

BOLTWOOD

Lastly I appoint my said wife, sole executrix of this my Will and Testament. . . .

We remember our grandmother standing on the side porch to welcome us with her happy smile as we came to spend our summer vacations in the old home; and she used to stand there too, when with heavy hearts we had to turn back to city life, and school-books.

She was a good correspondent and patiently answered our letters, when it must have been hard for her to do so. She loved to keep the letters she received in a bag near her, and would read them over and over again. We only regret that most of her own have been lost in the many movings, and we have but two left—one, written to her daughter, Mary, and the other, to her son-in-law, Augustus Graves. These we give:

“Nov. 1846.

“Dear Mary Jane

“Your father has told you that I was sea-sick, and lest you should conclude that I was the only sick one, I shall tell you I was not, but it would need the graphic pen of Dr. Cox, to give you any idea of the scene.

“When we had been out about Three quarters of an hour,



'The Old Boltwood Desk'

Mr. Ives said, 'I wish we had stayed in Brooklyn to-day.' I wondered, as I had apprehended no inconvenience from wind or water. I had not dreamed of sickness.

"The scene changed rapidly. Think of over 50 ladies, all inclined to lie down. Sea-sickness is a great leveler. There was no aristocracy there. All were glad and willing, to take the lowest place. Gold watches, elegant bracelets, satin dresses, and all kinds of jewelry, were of no account. The new bride with her fixings, had no more attention than any of us.

"Some said they should die! but no one did. There was great unity of feeling. A strange unconcernedness came over me; I doubt very much if any one had attempted to cast us into the sea, there would have been much resistance.

"A young lady said she 'had crossed the ocean 12 times, but never saw so many sick!' One great trouble was, if they attempted to rise, there was nothing to hold up by, and down they went. I have written more than I meant to, respecting it.

"Suffice it to say, in 8 hours from the time we left your happy home, we were all safe in the cars at New Haven, and glad that we were alive.

"We arrived at Suffield, in the evening, where we found all anxious for our safety, knowing the wind had been against us. We got home Monday, before dark, very

BOLTWOOD

comfortably, where we received a letter from Horatio, telling us they have a fine boy, born Oct. 28. Perhaps, you know it.

"You told me you some expected Mr. Coffin in Nov. If they should come, I wish them to get their 'Daguerreotypes taken. If you will advance the money, I will send it to you by Mr. Burke, when he goes to New York. Judith has spent one whole day here, since I came home.

"Love to all the little ones,

"Your affectionate mother,"

Martha Arms

"Dear Augustus—

"I heard by Mr. Matthews, that he should go to New York next Monday. It is a good opportunity to write to you. It was so much like speaking to you, that I wanted to improve the privilege.

"When I say we are as comfortable as could be expected at our advanced age, I do not say that we do not feel the infirmities of age. Time has been doing its work, ever since you saw us last. If all our faculties are not gone, they are greatly diminished, but one faculty I still retain, ie—memory.

"The memory of past kindnesses is still vivid in my mind, although the events of last week vanish. The kindness of

my children in years of trial, is remembered with gratitude. I look back to the time when Cornelia helped us to bear our burden of affliction, and trial, without a complaining word, escaping her lips, through long and protracted illness, with which we were afflicted, and although it often causes the unbidden tear to fall, they are tears of gratitude for God's goodness in giving me kind children. . . ."

The following letter is of interest, having been written to our Grandmother, from the battle-field by her grandson, James T. Graves:

"Headquarters, Second Brigade,

"Division before Port Hudson, La., July 5, 1863.

"Dear Grandmother,—

"You see by the date of this, that we are before Port Hudson, but not in it. The garrison are making a desperate resistance, and a noble defense, if I may so speak, of traitors in arms, but their controlling spirit (Gen. Gardner) is very plucky, and has almost absolute power over the persons of his troops, so though the Rebs had the inclination to desert to us, and there are doubtless many who are only watching the opportunity to reach us, his plans are so well laid that their efforts are mostly futile.

"As it is, they desert in small numbers daily, and give a distressing picture of the condition of things inside the

BOLTWOOD

fort. One deserter tells us, that their beans are all gone, and they were talking of mule-meat, which I fancy will be disgusting food, for the highborn Southern chivalry. Anyhow the 'Mud-sills' have the best fare now, and in the natural course of things will very soon have the place.

"Perhaps ere this reaches you the garrison will have yielded. Banks, (I think injudiciously) promised the force here that Port Hudson would fall before the Fourth of July, but the fifth, still finds the army around it. The place cannot sustain a siege of many days longer.

"Our Sappers and Miners (The 1st. Louisiana Colored Regt.) have dug a road which leads right up to the Rebel works; a column of men can be marched to the end of it, and the enemy cannot see them.

"So fearful were the Rebs that this work would be completed, that they, day before yesterday, threw three 10 pd shells into the works, one or two burst over our workers; they harmed no one, but they found to their cost that rifle shells were made to be thrown from cannon, for more than one struck their own parapet, rolled back, and exploded among them, and the fuses of the rest caught fire, and the result as deserters tell us, was that the rebs carried away, 16 dead, and 45 wounded.

"Yesterday our workers struck their picks as usual, as they supposed into the solid earth, but found that the picks

struck through into open space, then perceived that the Rebs had counter-mined and by looking through the aperture ascertained that a keg of powder had been placed there, and that the slow-match had been applied. They gallantly withdrew, soon an explosion which struck the ground, and harmed no one but the rebs, for it opened a good level road-way into their fort, which we will make the most of.

"You have read of our expedition through the Teche Co. The marching was very hard, but its results were grand. So much property having fallen into our hands.

"Our time of enlistment shortly expires, but we go home to find Pennsylvania invaded, and the war seemingly far from an end.

"When I first mingled with the men of the army, I felt that my position was a difficult one; indeed to keep alive the flame of the Spirit in my heart, so much profanity and infidelity prevails the case seemed hard at first, but through God's grace, I hope that I have been of use to some.

"Kindest remembrances to all, and I hope on my return I may see you as before,

"Your affectionate Grandson,

"JAMES T. GRAVES."

Our Grandmother retained her sprightly wit to the last. One of her grandsons used to say he would rather talk with

BOLTWOOD

her than with any young lady he knew. Her quaint remarks and original way of putting things will always be remembered by her grandchildren.

Her last illness was short. When the minister, a young man, called to see her, shortly before the end, and started to read to her from the Book of Revelations, she raised her hand in her own bright way, as much as to say, "I knew all about that, long before you did!"--and then she said:

"I have the 'white stone.'"

Martha (Boltwood) Arms died Feb. 22, 1867.

Sarah Lewis

Wife of Samuel Boltwood, 1st

Great-great-grandmother of Martha Boltwood

Wife of John Arms

William Lewis, 1st, our emigrant ancestor, came from Capt. William Lewis, 2d—England in the “Lion,” arriving Sarah Lewis Boltwood— in Boston, Sept. 16, 1632. He Solomon Boltwood, 1st— belonged to the Braintree Company, Solomon Boltwood, 2d— and soon moved to Cambridge, Samuel Boltwood, 2d— where he was made Freeman, Nov. Martha Boltwood Arms— 6, 1632.

Martha Arms— The Freeman’s oath was of so much importance to our ancestors, being their gateway to political rights, that we give it here in full:

“THE OATH OF A FREE MAN, OR OF A MAN
TO BE MADE FREE

“I, ———, being by the Almighty's most wise disposition become a member of this body, consisting of the Governor, Deputy Governor, Assistants, and Commonality of the Massachusetts, in New England, do freely, and sincerely acknowledge that I am justly, and lawfully subject to the government of the same, and do accordingly submit my person and estate to be protected ordered and governed by the laws and constitutions thereof, and do faithfully promise to be from time to time obedient and conformable thereunto and to the authority of said Governor, and assistants, and their successors, and to all such laws, orders, sentences, and decrees as shall be lawfully made and published by them or their successors, and I will always endeavour (as in duty I am bound) to advance the peace and welfare of this body or Commonwealth, to my utmost skill and ability, and I will to my best power and means seek to divert and prevent whatsoever may tend to the ruin or damage thereof, or of any of the said Governor, Deputy Governor, or assistants, or any of them or their successors, and will give speedy notice to them, or some of them, of any sedition, violence, treachery, or other hurt or evil, which I shall know here or vehemently suspect to be plotted, or intended against the Commonwealth, or the said Government established,

LEWIS

and I will not at any time suffer or give consent to any counsel, or attempt that shall be offered, given or attempted for the impeachment of the said government, or making any change or alteration of the same, contrary to the laws and ordinances thereof; but shall do my utmost endeavour to discover, oppose, or hinder all, and every such counsel and attempt. So help me God!"

We know the names of thirty-two of our ancestors, on the Graves and Arms sides, who took this oath before 1691.

- 1631 THOMAS FORD
- STEPHEN TERRY
- RICHARD CHURCH
- WILLIAM CLARK
- 1632 WILLIAM LEWIS
- 1633 RICHARD LYMAN
- 1634 ROGER CLAP
- SAMUEL STONE
- ANDREW WARNER
- THOMAS NEWBERRY
- ROBERT BLOT
- MATTHEW ALLYN
- JAMES ENSIGN
- THOMAS WOODFORD

LEWIS

- 1636 JAMES BATE
EDWARD CLAP
WILLIAM BEARDSLEY
JOHN STRONG
THOMAS MEAKINS
- 1638 REV. HENRY SMITH
- 1640 THOMAS GRAVES
JOHN BURBANK
- 1648 HENRY BURT
- 1666 JOSEPH BALDWIN
PHILIP RUSSELL
- 1690 NATHANIEL DICKINSON
SAMUEL SMITH
PHILIP SMITH
JOHN ALLIS
JOHN LYMAN
PRESERVED CLAP
WILLIAM MILLER

LEWIS

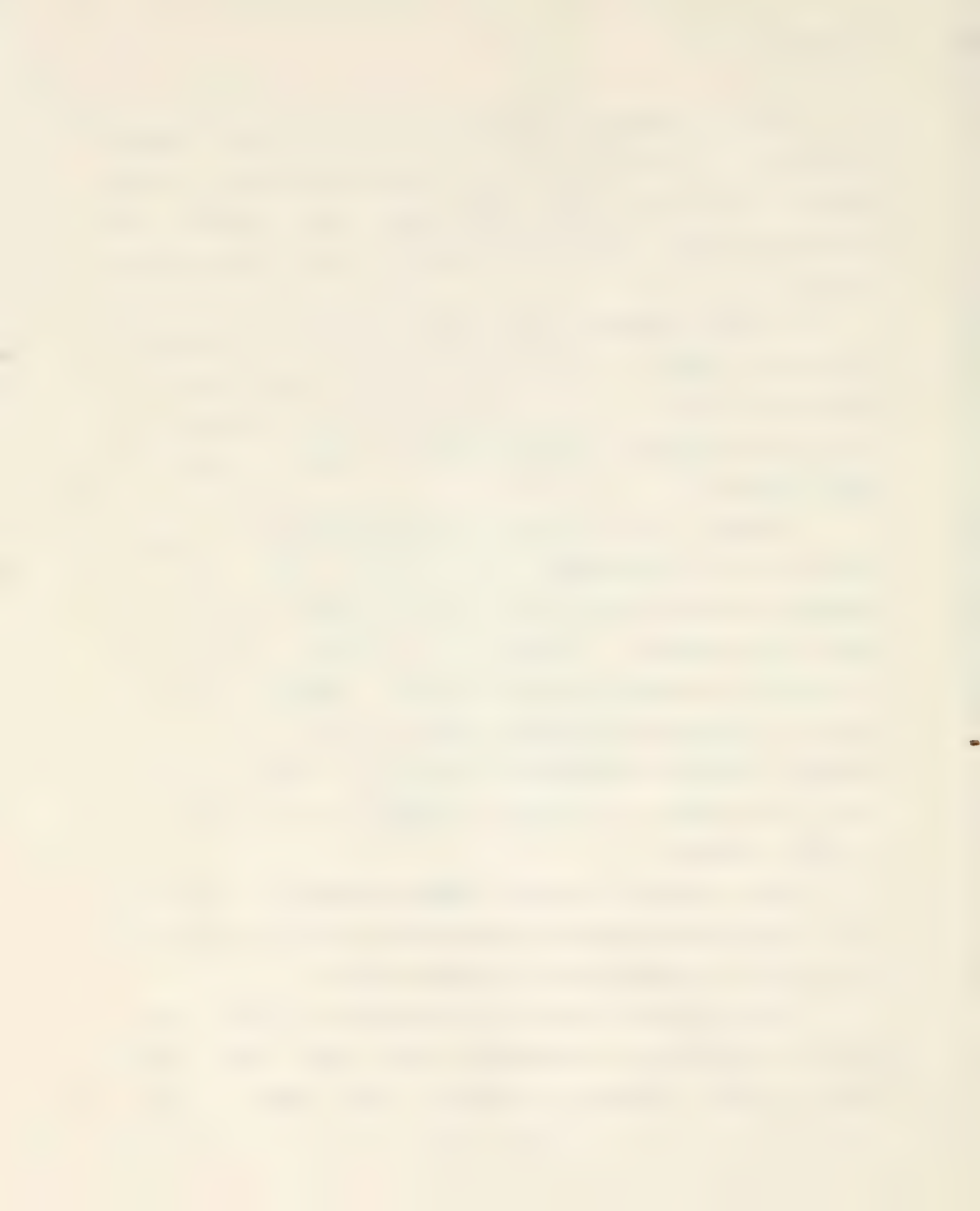
In 1636, William Lewis was one of the first settlers of Hartford. His name is on the monument erected to the memory of the first settlers of that city. His homelot was on Main Street. He was townsman in 1641, and juror in 1642.

In 1659, William Lewis signed the celebrated agreement to settle in Hadley, and was one of the five men chosen by the whole company, "to go up to the aforesaid plantation, to lay out the number 59 homelots, and to allow 8 acres for every homelot."

Another of our ancestors, Nathaniel Dickinson, accompanied him. They willingly undertook the work, and the Company allowed them to choose their own lots, provided they "look them together." This we see, according to the plan of the village of Hadley, in 1663, they did. William Lewis' lot was the fifth from the old Bay Path (a road we love to remember), Nathaniel Dickinson's, the first; so these ancestors were near neighbors, and workers together for the welfare of the little settlement.

Before moving to Hadley, William Lewis had had his trials in the Hartford church, having fallen under the displeasure of our sixth Great-grandfather, Samuel Stone.

William Lewis belonged to the minority in that unexplainable difficulty, and undoubtedly this led him with many others to decide to remove to Hadley. They built in 1659,



on the beautiful wide street, rude little homes, probably of logs.

William Lewis was among the first jurors to attend court from the new town. All but one of the three who went with him, were also our ancestors. Indeed, for the first twenty-five years of old Hadley's existence, not much happened that we were not in it.

It was in William Lewis' house that Hadley received its name; so called from Hadleigh, of England. 150 Pounds was about the amount the first settlers paid for the territory, which included much of what is now Amherst, South Hadley, and Hatfield. No wonder they felt that they had made an excellent bargain.

In 1663, the richest men in Hadley were worth about one thousand dollars in money, and owned a little over eight acres in land. William Lewis was rated at 750 Pounds, but money seemed to go farther in those days, or perhaps it was that the funds kept better pace with the needs than they do now.

William Lewis belonged to the militia; was a Representative to the General Court, for Hadley, in 1662, and for Northampton, in 1664.

His wife bore the curious name of Felix. She

died in Hadley, April, 17, 1671, and before 1677, William Lewis removed to Farmington, Conn., probably to be near his only son, who had lived there for many years.

At Farmington, he died, Aug. 2, 1683.

William Lewis, 1st, was our sixth Great-grandfather.

William Lewis, 2d, son of William and Felix ——— Lewis, was one of the first settlers of Farmington, Conn. He was the first Recorder of the town, on its incorporation, in 1645. His name is in the Connecticut Colonial Records, as Captain in 1674.

He married Mary Hopkins, daughter of William Hopkins, Esq., of Stratford, Conn. She joined the church at Farmington, Conn., March 16, 1656, and Jan. 25, 1657, her husband also joined the church.

William Lewis, 2d, died at Farmington, Aug. 18, 1690.

He was our fifth Great-grandfather.

William Lewis

LEWIS

Sarah, daughter of William, 2d, and Mary Hopkins Lewis, was born at Farmington in 1652. She married Samuel Boltwood, 1st.

After the tragic death of her husband and son in the Deerfield Meadow Fight, she lived eighteen years, dying at the age of seventy, Aug. 10, 1722.

She had ten children.

Sarah Lewis Boltwood was our fourth Great-grand-mother.

Mary Hopkins

Wife of William Lewis, 2d

Mother of Sarah Lewis, wife of Samuel Boltwood

Great-great-great-grandmother of Martha Boltwood

Wife of John Arms

*Mary was probably the daughter of William Hopkins,
but the line has been impossible to trace.*

Mary Norton

Wife of Solomon Boltwood, 1st
Great-grandmother of Martha Boltwood
Wife of John Arms

John Norton, 1st, is believed to be the third son of John Norton, 2d— Richard Norton and Ellen Rowley, Mary Norton Boltwood— of London. Early in 1644, John Solomon Boltwood, 2d— Norton became one of the 40 first Samuel Boltwood— settlers of Branford, Conn., and his Martha Boltwood Arms— name is found on the first page of Martha Arms— the Branford Records.

December 11, 1638, the tract of land situated between Guilford and New Haven, was purchased from the Indians for the compensation of "eleven coats of trucking cloth, and one coat of English cloth made after the English manner," and the reservation of sufficient land for a home for the tribe, which consisted of ten men with their families.

In the grants, and for sometime later, the place retains

NORTON

the original name of Totokett, which means "the tidal river." There is no record extant of a vote to change the name, but in a few years the name Brainford, or Brantford, appears in the town's transactions.

Brantford, in England, was a town on the river Brent, seven miles from London, and it is supposed some of the settlers emigrating from that place, bestowed the name of their native town upon their New England home.

John Norton assisted in the legal affairs of the place, but, in 1659, he removed to Farmington, and his name appears there as one of the 84 proprietors, in the division of land.

John Norton married a second wife, Elizabeth ———, who died in Brantford, Nov. 5, 1657.

He died in Farmington, Nov. 5, 1709, aged about 90.

John Norton, 1st, was our fifth Great-grandfather.

John Norton, 2d, only child of John and Elizabeth ——— Norton, was born in Brantford, Oct. 14, 1657. A baby of but three weeks, when his mother died. When he was two years old, his father removed to Farmington, where

NORTON

John, Jr., grew to manhood, and became one of the prominent citizens.

He was Representative to the General Court for Farmington, for three years, 1680-1683.

He married Ruth, daughter of Dea. Isaac Moore.

He died in Farmington, April 25, 1725.

John Norton, 2d, was our fourth Great-grandfather.

Mary, daughter of John, 2d, and Ruth Moore Norton, was baptized Nov. 2d, 1686.

She married Solomon Boltwood, 1st, about 1720. She had six children, three girls, and three boys.

She died at Amherst, May 24, 1763, aged 76.

Mary Norton Boltwood was our third Great-grandmother.

Ruth Moore

Wife of John Norton, 2d

Mother of Mary Norton Boltwood

Great-great-grandmother of Martha Boltwood

Wife of John Arms

Isaak Moore, our emigrant ancestor, was entered for Ruth Moore Norton— passage to America, in the ship Mary Norton Boltwood— “Increase,” “Isaak More aged 13,” Solomon Boltwood, 2d— April, 1635. We next hear of Samuel Boltwood— him in Hartford, Conn., where he Martha Boltwood Arms— married Ruth Stanley, Dec. 5, 1645. Martha Arms— He was in Farmington, before 1650, being one of the town’s first settlers. In 1649, he was made a Sergt. in the Colonial Militia. He removed from Farmington, to Norwalk, and was a Representative for that town in 1657.

In 1660, he returned to Farmington, and was made a deacon of the church there. In 1673, he was one of the

MOORE

witnesses to the second agreement, drawn up between the proprietors and the Indians.

We have not the date of his death.

Sergt. Isaak Moore was our fifth Great-grandfather.

Ruth, daughter of Isaak and Ruth Stanley Moore, was born in Norwalk, Conn., Jan. 5, 1657. She married John Norton, and removed to Farmington.

Their daughter, Mary, married Solomon Boltwood, 1st.

Ruth Moore Norton was our fourth Great-grand-mother.

Ruth Stanley

Wife of Isaac Moore

Grandmother of Mary Norton Boltwood

Great-great-great-grandmother of Martha Boltwood

Wife of John Arms

The only record that has come down to us of this John Stanley— emigrant ancestor, John Stanley, is Ruth Stanley Moore— the pathetic line, “died in the way Ruth Moore Norton— to New England.” The ship in Mary Norton Boltwood— which he and his two brothers, Solomon Boltwood— Thomas and Timothy, embarked, Samuel Boltwood— arrived in May, 1634, bearing also Martha Boltwood Arms— his three orphan children. John Martha Arms— Stanley’s wife must have died in England, as no mention is made of her, and the children were evidently without father or mother, and entirely dependent upon their uncles. (The youngest child died that year.) One brother agreed to bring up the son, the

STANLEY

other, Timothy, adopted the daughter (our Grandmother) Ruth.

Ruth Stanley lived in her uncle's home, first in Cambridge, then Hartford, until her marriage.

Dec. 5, 1645, she married Sergt. Isaak Moore. They removed to Norwalk, and later, to Farmington, where she died, May 26, 1691, aged 46.

Ruth Stanley Moore was our fifth Great-grandmother.

Mary Strong

Wife of Solomon Boltwood, 2d

Grandmother of Martha Boltwood

Wife of John Arms

Richard Strong, the father of our emigrant ancestor, John Strong— was born in the County of Caernarvon, Wales, in 1561. The Strong Samuel Strong— family of England, was originally Nehemiah Strong— located in the County of Shropshire, Mary Strong Boltwood— England. One of the family married Samuel Boltwood— an heiress of Griffeth, of the County Martha Boltwood Arms— of Caernarvon, Wales, and went Martha Arms— thither to reside in 1646. Richard Strong was of this branch of the family.

In 1590, he removed to Taunton, Somersetshire, England, where he died in 1613, leaving a son John, then eight years of age, and a daughter, Eleanor.

Richard Strong was our sixth Great-grandfather.

STRONG

John, son of Richard and ——— Strong, was born in Taunton, England, in 1605, whence he removed to London, and afterwards to Plymouth.

Having strong Puritan sympathies, he sailed from Plymouth, for the new world, March 20, 1630, in company with 140 persons, in the ship "Mary and John" (Capt. Squeb), and arrived at Nantasket (Hull), Mass., about 12 miles south-east from Boston, after a passage of more than seventy days in length, on Sunday, May 30, 1630.

The original destination of the vessel was Charles river, but an unfortunate misunderstanding, which arose between the captain and passengers, resulted in their being put summarily ashore by him, at Nantasket. After searching for a few days for a good place in which to settle and make homes for themselves, they decided upon the spot which they called Dorchester, in memory of the endeared home in England, which many of them had left.

In 1635, after assisting in founding the town of Dorchester, John Strong removed to Hingham, Mass., and on March 9, 1636, took the Freeman's oath at Boston.

1638, he is found to be an inhabitant and proprietor of Taunton, Mass., and to have been in that year a Freeman

STRONG

of Plymouth Colony. From Taunton he removed to Windsor, Connecticut, where he was appointed with four others, all very leading men of the infant colony, "to superintend and bring forward the settlement of that place."

In 1654, he removed to Northampton. In order to build up the town, a certain number of acres were set aside for the pastor (Mr. Eleazer Mather) to distribute among the new comers, in order to encourage people to settle in the town.

Therefore Mr. Mather bequeathed with the consent and approbation of the town, Forty-six and one-half acres to John Strong. The community was poor and distressed when Mr. Mather and the six new settlers arrived. (John Strong, one of the six.)

As these six men emigrated to Northampton at the suggestion of Mr. Mather, it is said that he accomplished more for the permanent good of the town by their importation than by the eleven years of arduous ministerial labor which followed, for they brought new energy to the enfeebled town; their coming was like the infusion of new blood into the veins of an exhausted patient.

From the day of their arrival, these men took a leading part in the management of town affairs. All of them were at once put into harness, and from this date the advance of the settlement was steady and vigorous.

STRONG

John Strong was then 54 years of age, and his experience in pioneer life enabled him at once to assume a position of prominence and responsibility, seldom accorded to new comers.

By trade a Tanner, he was the first and probably the only person, who carried on that business in Northampton. So great was the confidence in his honesty and integrity, that the town by vote directed all hides taken to him, to be tanned at his own price. His tannery was located on what is now the south-west corner of Market and Main Streets, near the Railroad Depot.

A man of deep religious feeling, a Puritan emigrant to New England, braving the hardships of the wilderness, that he might establish purity of religion and liberty of conscience, he would naturally be found among the foremost in establishing the ordinances of religious worship.

He was prominent in the establishment of schools and church. He was ever active in the temporal as well as the spiritual welfare of the community. The purity of his private life, the consistency of his Christian character, his experience in worldly affairs, and his general intelligence, pointed to him as the proper person to fill the position of Ruling Elder, which position was second in importance only to that of the pastor.

STRONG

How he obtained his office and title of Elder John Strong, will appear by the following quotation from the church Records of Northampton :

"After solemn, and extraordinary seeking to God, for his direction and blessing, the church chose John Strong, Ruling Elder; he was ordained by the interposition of hands of the pastor, Rev. Eleazer Mather."

How near to the pastor himself, so greatly revered, the Ruling Elder stood in the thoughts of our Pilgrim Fathers, is manifest from the functions of the office, as described in the church Records, 1672:

"Samuel Stoddard was ordained pastor of the church in Northampton, by Mr. John Strong, Ruling Elder, and Mr. John Whiting, pastor of Second church of Hartford."

Wise and capable, in the maturity of his powers, having assisted at the establishment of four other towns, Elder Strong's advice was sought, and his suggestions heeded, as well in matters relating to the community, as in the more private affairs of his fellow townsmen.

The best efforts of his long life were everywhere devoted to the good of the people among whom he lived. To him, more than to any other layman, is the church indebted

STRONG

for its foundation and early growth. Among all the earnest and thoughtful men who planted the settlement of Northampton, not one was more influential, more painstaking or more respected than Elder John Strong.

He purchased Webb's home lot, at the corner of Main and South Streets, embracing within its limits the residence of the late Enos Parsons, and all the land westerly, to the Academy of Music, extending from Main Street to the river. This property remained in the Strong family 103 years. He owned, at different times, some 200 acres of land in and around Northampton.

—Trumbull's History of Northampton.

He married in Dec., 1630, his second wife, Abigail Ford, of Dorchester, Mass., with whom he lived in wedlock 56 years. He had, up to the time of his death, 160 descendants, 18 children, 114 grandchildren, and 33 great-grandchildren. He made over his lands in his lifetime to his children, and took bills of those whom he had helped beyond their share.

His arm chair is still in existence, and at the celebration of the Old Home Week in Sunderland, Mass., 1903, this



Elder John Strong's Chair

STRONG

valuable relic of the past, was one of the most interesting heirlooms exhibited there.

While devoutly wishing that we owned the original, we have been fortunate enough to secure a photograph.

John Strong died April 14, 1699.

He was our fifth Great-grandfather.

John Strong

Samuel, son of John and Abigail Ford Strong, was born Aug. 5, 1652, in Windsor, Conn. He married, June 19, 1684, Esther Clap, daughter of Dea. Edward Clap, of Dorchester, Mass. Samuel Strong was a farmer, and spent the years of his long life at Northampton, Mass., with the exception of the period of his captivity in Canada.

THE STORY OF SAMUEL STRONG'S CAPTURE
BY INDIANS

(As told in Trumbull's History of Northampton)

Samuel Strong, of Northampton, and his son Samuel, started on the morning of the 10th of Aug., 1711, to get a load of grain from the meadows. When they reached the bottom of the hill three shots were fired at them, by Indians in ambush. The people living on South Street heard the guns and ran to the spot. They found the young man dead, and the team standing quiet. The father was wounded and captured. On his way to Canada, according to the tradition handed down in the family, Mr. Strong in recounting his adventures, stated that when the party reached a hill from whence Northampton could be seen, he took as he supposed, his last look upon his beloved home and town, with feelings that cannot be described.

It is not known how long he remained in Canada, nor how he obtained his liberty. He returned on a Lecture Day, and entered the Meeting House to the surprise and joy of the entire congregation, who received him, as one risen from the dead.



House built by Nehemiah Strong - 1774.

STRONG

Elder John Strong must have had great confidence in Samuel, for though one of his younger sons, he made him the executor of his Will.

Samuel Strong died at Northampton, Oct. 29, 1732, aged 80 years.

He was our fourth Great-grandfather.

Nehemiah, son of Samuel and Esther Clap Strong, was born in Northampton, 1694.

He removed to Amherst, in 1741, where he built the old Strong house in 1744. It is situated on Amity Street, and is the oldest house in Amherst, and remains, with very little alteration, just as it was, when erected 160 years ago.

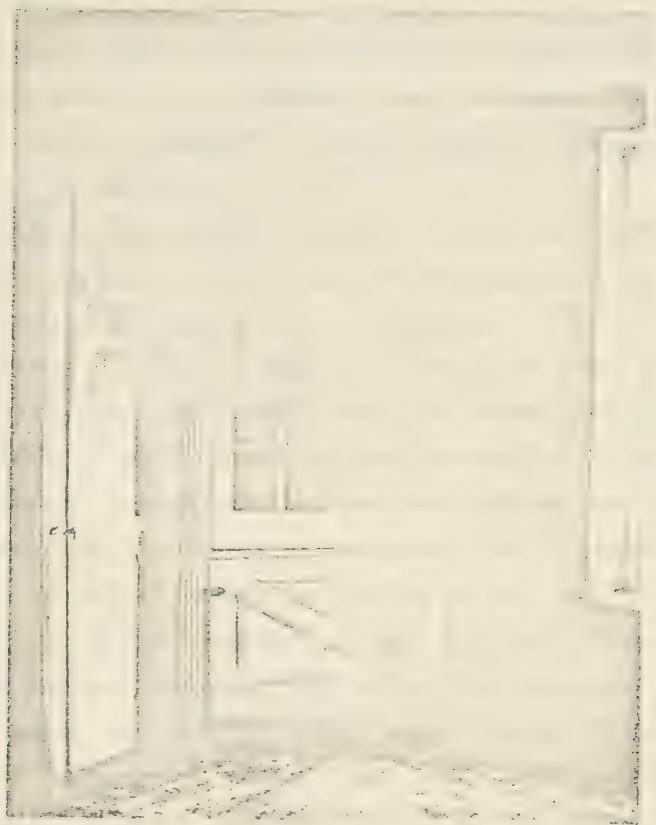
THE STRONG HOUSE, AMHERST, MASS.

It stands far back from the village street, with a straight and narrow footpath leading from the gate to the front door. The porch is shaded by two, very tall, and ancient Button-ball trees, which stand like sentinels, as if to challenge the mere curiosity-seekers, who have no right within the mansion.

But our passports of entrance were the few words following our names, written in the visitors book of the D. A. R.: "Great-Great-Great-Grand-daughters of Nehemiah Strong," and the present owner, the gentle lady who bade us such kindly welcome, became herself a family friend when we discovered that her grandfather was the "Pastor Emerson" of Conway, in the days of our Grandfather Arms.

We entered the house from the rear room, once the office of Judge Simon Strong (Mary Strong's brother), and now a most interesting meeting-place of the D. A. R., where are deposited many precious memorials of the early days of New England. As we walked into the parlor, we were struck by the spaciousness of the large, square room, its lofty ceiling, old-fashioned window seats, and panelled wall, in which seemed to be innumerable closets of all sizes and heights.

In the narrow space between the front windows, was a drawer sunk into the wall. It was just high enough from



The Old Cupboard—.

STRONG

the floor for a little child to reach, and we wondered if it might not have been a hiding place for some of Mary Strong's treasures, though we more suspect it concealed her father's pipes and flint.

Opposite the parlor, across the narrow hall (where the front door opened on to the side of the staircase) we came upon a room, the gem of the old mansion. The side wall was panelled to the ceiling. A frieze of wood extended around the top, all hand work; no corner alike. Little closets appeared tucked away in most unexpected places, and in one corner is built into the wall, a cupboard, the beauties of which so grew upon us as we gazed, we at once determined, if possible to obtain a picture of it, which should at least, give a faint outline of its size and shape. We were not surprised to learn that one of the descendants of the Strong family has exact an model made for his Albany home.

The doorway is arched, the upper part divided into small panes of glass, spreading out at the top like a shell, the carving of the panels and framework is very finished, and the whole effect, quaint, and most artistic. Indeed, every part of the woodwork in the house, is perfect of its kind.

The rooms upstairs were again large and square with panels and cupboards. Also closets within closets.

As we came down the old fashioned stairway, and passed out into the street, unconsciously our heads were lifted,

STRONG

and we felt a current of the best blood of New England coursing through our veins, for we realized that we had been visiting a typical home, of one the first families of the 18th century, and it was ours.

Nehemiah Strong's name appears on the town records, nearly always in connection with the church; either as on the Seating Committee, or seeing that the minister's firewood was attended to.

This particular record is a curiosity in the spelling line:

"Voted: Nehemiah Strong, Lieut. Ebenezer Kellogg, a committy to Hire Sutable Parsons to Blow re Kunk, and sweep re Meetinghous for this yeare."

In 1750, "It was voted to give Nehemiah Strong, two Pounds, 15 shillins to Blow the Kunk for this yeare."

His name is on the list of residents of Amherst, who had 100 Pounds, or more, at interest. He gave his two sons a college education.

He married Hannah, daughter of Jonathan French.

Nehemiah Strong died Feb. 28, 1772, aged 78.

He was our third Great-grandfather.

Original "Kunk"

THE CHILDREN OF NEHEMIAH STRONG

There were three, two sons and a daughter, all gifted intellectually.

Nehemiah, the oldest, graduated at Yale College, where he became the first Professor of Mathematics, and Natural Philosophy.

He studied for the ministry and preached for a time at Granby. He also studied law.

From his Will, we should judge him to have been a man of most lovable qualities. He left his "thermometer, my two globes, terrestrial, and celestial, and my mathematical instruments, magnet, surveying chain, small Latin books, etc., in consideration of the goodwill and affection I do bear unto him, and in consideration of his having been a darling grand-child to my wife. . . .

"I will and bequeath to my sister Mary Strong Boltwood, of Amherst, Three eight parts of the residue of my estate. . . to be wholly at her disposal. . . ." The Will closes with, "Thus do I leave the world, hoping and praying, that by the superabundant grace of God, I may have a happy resurrection to Eternal Life, through Jesus Christ, Amen. . . ."

There was a tragedy in his early life. He married a supposed widow, whose husband not having perished at sea,

STRONG

as had been universally believed, returned unexpectedly, and claimed his wife.

Later, he was most happily married, and settled in Bridgeport, where he died.

Hon. Simeon Strong, the youngest son, was one of the most noted men who have resided in Amherst. He was a graduate of Yale, in 1756. A lawyer of great eminence.

In 1800, was appointed one of the judges of the Supreme Court of Massachusetts. He received in 1805, from Harvard College, the degree of LL. D.

The first carriage known in Amherst, a fall back chaise, was owned by Judge Simeon Strong. His father, Nehemiah, in his Will left him but "Six shillings, and no more, I having already, as I judged, sufficiently advanced him. . . ."

Simeon Strong lived and died in the old Strong mansion. We saw the graves of Judge Simeon and his father, Nehemiah Strong, in the old burying ground in Amherst.

Mary, daughter of Nehemiah and Hannah French

STRONG

Strong, was born Feb. 21, 1732, in Northampton, Mass., in a house near the present Depot.

It is said of her brother, Judge Simeon Strong, that "he was a man of clear, discriminating habits of thought; of quick apprehension, and retentive memory. He was an earnest Christian; given to hospitality; compassionate to the poor and suffering, and a great lover of good men," and that Mary was just like him. "A woman of very superior abilities, and of like grade for intellect, with her brother Judge Simeon, Strong."

She married, Aug. 29, 1751, Solomon Bolwood, of Amherst.

We think she must have missed the high ceilings, and the many interesting closets in her father's beautiful house, when she moved to her husband's home farther down the street, but the view of the hills may have been some compensation to a woman of her understanding.

Of her ten children, all but two passed away before she did, her little Elijah, dying but a few months before his father. All but this child, lived to be over twenty, so her life must have had much sickness, care and sadness in it.

We all remember hearing the tale of the sudden death of our great uncle Solomon, her fifth child, "Killed at the raising of Hatfield Bridge."

STRONG

The Boltwood Bible, now in our possession, passed from this Solomon, to our uncle Solomon Boltwood Arms, and his watch, an old "Bullseye," is owned by his great-great-nephew, Augustus Graves Ely.

Our Great-grandfather, Samuel Boltwood, was Mary's second child, and the next child to him was named Martha. We are sure that he named his only daughter, Martha, from this sister, whose death, at the age of 22, occurred but two months before our grandmother's birth.

After thirty-seven years of widowhood, Mary Strong Boltwood died Aug. 1, 1814, aged 82.

She was our Great-great-grandmother.

Abigail Ford

Wife of John Strong

Third Great-grandmother of Martha Boltwood

Wife of John Arms

Thomas Ford, our sixth Great-grandfather on both Abigail Ford Strong— Arms and Graves sides, was one Samuel Strong— of the original company who sailed Nehemiah Strong— from Plymouth, Eng., on the "Mary Mary Strong Boltwood— and John," in the early Spring of Samuel Boltwood— 1630. This ship brought many of Martha Boltwood Arms— our ancestors, making us very early Martha Arms— comers into this country. Mr. Ford was a man of large means. He came from Dorchester, Eng., and became one of the founders of Dorchester, Mass., the third oldest town in New England.

He was made Freeman in 1631, being one of the first twenty-four Selectmen.

FORD

He removed to Windsor, later, with his family, and there with his wife, joined the church.

He owned at this time most of the site of Windsor Locks, and had hundreds of acres granted him on the east side of the "great river."

Thomas Ford was a Deputy to the General Court of Connecticut, for three years. He removed to Northampton at the same time with John Strong, his son-in-law.

Thomas Ford was a devoted friend to the regicides, Goffe and Whalley. A man of great energy, and an earnest Christian. We do not know the name of his wife.

He died at Northampton, Nov. 9, 1676.

Thomas Ford

Abigail, daughter of Thomas and ——— Ford, came over on the "Mary and John," with her father, and future husband, John Strong, whose delicate wife died shortly after their arrival at Dorchester, and he lost little time in replacing her, for Abigail Ford was married to John Strong, that same year, 1630.

She was the mother of 17 children, and our fifth Great-grandmother.

Esther Clap

Wife of Samuel Strong

Grandmother of Mary Strong Boltwood

Great-great-grandmother of Martha Boltwood

Wife of John Arms

Clappa; an obsolete Saxon name. *Clapp—Clapps—Clapson—Clapham* is the Ham or home of *Clapper*, a Saxon who held the manor in the time of Edward the Confessor. The family of *Clap*, *Samuel Boltwood—* originally *Clappa*, claims Danish extraction, and was long settled in *Martha Boltwood Arms—* Devonshire, Eng. *Edward Clap,* our fifth Great-grandfather, was the brother of our Graves ancestor, Capt. Roger Clap, who was so enthusiastic over the new country, that he persuaded many of his family to try their fortunes here. Edward was older than

CLAP

Roger, and came over from Salcomb, Devonshire, five years later, 1635.

He settled in Dorchester and was greatly esteemed there, serving in its most responsible offices.

He married Susanna, daughter of William Cockerill. He was chosen delegate from the church in Dorchester, to Northampton, at the founding of the first church there.

Edward Clap

In the church records is the following account of Edward Clap's death: "The eighth day of the 11th Mo. 1664, being the Sabbath day, Deacon Edward Clap departed this life, and now resteth with the Lord, there to spend an eternal sabbath with God and Christ in Heaven, after that he had faithfully served in the office of a Deacon for the space of about five or six and twenty years; and being the first Church officer that was taken away by death since the first joining together in covenant which is now twenty-eight years four mos, and odd days. . . ."

EDWARD CLAP'S WILL

“My body after death to my dear relations and Christian friends, to bee decently buried in the earth, there to rest knowing assuredly it shall be raised up again by my dear Redeemer, the Lord Jesus Christ at His cominge, and as for my outward estate, my funeral being discharged, and just debts paid, I give unto my Dear and Loving wife 20 Pounds in what goods she shall Desire it, and farther my will is that she shall enjoye all my Housing, Land, Orchard, Planting, Land and meadow, together with the two neereſt Diviſions of Woodland, During her Widowhood, except my ſonne Nehemiah, ſhall firſt marry, or attaine the age of 21 yeares; then in ſuch a caſe he ſhall have ſuch part as is herein after expreſſed.

“Also my Dear wife ſhall enjoy one quarter of the tide Mill until Nehemiah’s age aforeſaid, but if my Dear wife ſhall marry, then my will is that all my land ſhall Returne unto my ſonnes. Then my will is that my dear Wife ſhall have four ſcore pounds more added to the firſt 20. to be hers forever.

“As for my children, my will is that Ezra (the ſecond ſon) ſhall have as much as my daughters, and my will is that my four daughters ſhall have an equall portion, and my

CLAP

(oldest) son Nehemiah, 20 pounds more than my Daughters.

"I canne sell no summe because I know not what it will come to, but my meaning is that they shall have equall portions with what they that are married have already received, it being 30 Pounds apiece which is to be part of their portions. I give unto my daughter Esther an equalle single portion, to be paid her by my overseers appointed by my executors. . ."

No signatures to the Will is explained by the following document:

"The testimony of Roger Clap, aged 55 years. We every one of us being present at the House of Edward Clappe on the 3d day of January 1664, did hear the writing now presented read unto the said Edward Clappe, now deceased. He approved of it to be his Will, and he caused it to be read again in the hearing of his wife, to see if shee had any exception to make, and then appointed it to be fairly writ out againe; which accordingly was forthwith done, and we, coming to the intent to have it perfected were informed that he was asleepe, and therefore were not willing to trouble him, it being late in the night, went away, and forebore at that present. Afterward it was neglected to be presented, so nothing else was done concerning settling his estate that we know of.

"Taken upon Oath the 1st of Feb. 1664, as the probate of the Will, all parties agreeing."

CLAP

Esther, daughter of Edward and Susanna Cockerill Clap, was born at Dorchester, July, 1656.

She married June 19, 1684, Samuel Strong, of Northampton.

Esther Clap Strong was our fourth Great-grandmother.

COCKERILL

Susanna Cockerill

Wife of Edward Clap

Great-grandmother of Mary Strong Boltwood

Third Great-grandmother of Martha Boltwood

Wife of John Arms

We know nothing of William Cockerill, our sixth William Cockerill— Great-grandfather, except that he Susanna Cockerill Clap— lived at Salem for a time. Esther Clap Strong— Susanna, daughter of William Nehemiah Strong— Cockerill, married Edward Clap, at Mary Strong Boltwood— Dorchester, Mass. They had two Samuel Boltwood— sons and two daughters. Our fourth Martha Boltwood Arms—Great-grandmother, Esther, was their Martha Arms— oldest child. "Susanna Cockerill Clap, lived a widow twenty-four years, and died June 16, 1688." She was our fifth Great-grandmother.

Hannah French

Wife of Nehemiah Strong

Great-grandmother of Martha Boltwood

Wife of John Arms

We have not been able to trace this line positively, but
John French— after much research, are confident
Jonathan French— that it is correct as we print it here.
Hannah French Strong— John French came from Rehobeth, Mass. He lived at Northampton
Mary Strong Boltwood— in 1678, and purchased lands in
Samuel Boltwood— Deerfield. He married ——— Kings-
Martha Boltwood Arms— ley, daughter of John Kingsley.
Martha Arms— His oldest son lost all his family,
by capture or murder in the Deerfield Massacre of 1704.
He died at Northampton, Feb. 1, 1697.

John French was our fifth Great-grandfather.

FRENCH

Jonathan, son of John and ——— Kingsley French, lived in Northampton. Married there, May 2, 1668, Sarah Warner. Both their names are on the church records, as members of the church.

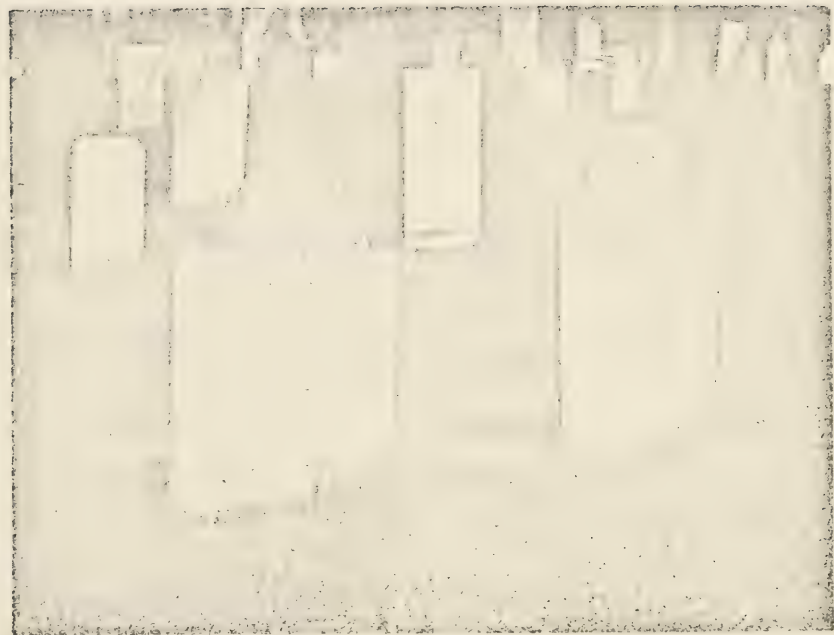
Jonathan French was our fourth Great-grandfather.

Hannah, daughter of Jonathan and Sarah Warner French, was born March 4, 1697. Her first husband, Nathaniel Edwards, was slain by Indians.

She married Nehemiah Strong, some years afterwards. We wish that we knew more of this grandmother, as her three children, Nehemiah, Mary, who married Solomon Boltwood, 2d, and Judge Simeon Strong, were all possessed of more than usual intelligence, and we are inclined to think they inherited much from their mother. She also presided for many years over the interesting old Strong house, in Amherst, built by her husband.

Hannah French Strong died Aug. 3d, 1761, aged 64.

We visited her grave, and that of her husband in the old Burying ground of Amherst, Mass., and obtained photo-



Headstones of Nehemiah Strong
And Of His Wife
Hannah French Strong.

FRENCH

graphs of the stones, with their quaint wording, "Mr." and "Mrs."

Hamiah French Strong was our third Great-grand-mother.

———— Kingsley, wife of John French

The Kingsley line we have been unable to trace.

Sarah Warner

Wife of Jonathan French

Great-great-grandmother of Martha Boltwood

Wife of John Arms

John Warner, Farmer, lived and died in England.

*Andrew Warner— He was our seventh Great-grand-
Isaac Warner— father.*

*Sarah Warner French— Andrew Warner, born 1589, em-
Hannah French Strong— igrated from Hatfield, Gloucester
Mary Strong Boltwood— County, England, about 1632, when
Samuel Boltwood— he settled in Cambridge, Mass., and
Martha Boltwood Arms— was made Freeman there in 1634,
Martha Arms— and one of the Commissioners for
ordering affairs, at Connecticut, in
1636. He was an original proprietor of Hartford, where his
homelot in 1639, "was on the south bank of the little river."
His name is on the interesting old monument, erected to the
memory of Hartford's first settlers.*

WARNER

He married a widow, Hester ———. Her maiden name was probably Wakeman. He was chosen deacon of the first church, 1633, at the time that our ancestor, Rev. Samuel Stone, was the assistant pastor.

He was a member of Connecticut's first cavalry regiment, and was one of the earliest settlers of Hadley, signing the 1659 agreement.

Andrew Warner died at Hadley, Feb. 8, 1679, aged 90.

He was our sixth Great-grandfather.

Isaac, son of Andrew and Hester Wakeman (?) Warner, was a man of influence at Northfield during its second settlement.

He married, May 31, 1666, Sarah, daughter of Robert Boltwood, our emigrant ancestor. They were living at Deerfield, at the time of his death, in 1691.

Isaac Warner was our fifth Great-grandfather.

WARNER

Sarah, daughter of Isaac and Sarah Boltwood Warner, was born Mar 2, 1668. She married Jonathan French, of Northampton, and their daughter, Hannah, married Nehemiah Strong.

Sarah Warner French was our fourth Great-grand-mother.

Sarah Boltwood, Wife of Isaac Warner

The Boltwood line is already traced.

Judith Nash

*Wife of Samuel Boltwood
Mother of Martha Boltwood
Wife of John Arms*

Among the names of the Planters of New Haven, Thomas Nash— Conn., we find a good old ancestor Timothy Nash— of ours, Thomas Nash, with an John Nash, 1st— estate of 110 Pounds. He was among John Nash, 2d— the medium well to do, in a community where the richest man was John Nash, 3d— worth about \$15,000. His home Judith Nash Boltwood— in New Haven was on State Street, Martha Boltwood Arms— not far from John Davenport's, the Martha Arms— minister. It is most interesting to know that he was a member of the refugee church in Leyden, Holland.

Thomas Nash was the only one of our ancestors to leave the shores of England for a foreign land, before emigrating to America. For freedom to worship in his own way,

NASH

he went over to Leyden, Holland, and joined the little circle of Pilgrims there, under the care of Pastor John Robinson. Here, his youngest son, our Timothy Nash, was probably born.

Thomas Nash was one of the five who wrote from Leyden, in 1625, "to their brethren in Plymouth, Mass., informing them of the death of John Robinson, pastor of the church, which included in its membership, the planters of Plymouth, as well as the brethren still sojourning in Leyden."

Thomas Nash sailed from England in the "St. John," May 20, 1639, with Rev. Henry Whitfield. We have a very interesting account of the voyage and landing of the "St. John," written at the time.

"The passage was so ordered, as it appears that prayers were accepted, for they had no sickness in the trip, except a little seasickness. Not one died, but they brought to shore one more than was known to be in the vessel at their coming forth. (Mother and child are well.)

"They attained to the haven where they would be in seven weeks. Their provisions at sea held good to the last. About the time when we guessed they might approach near us, we set a day apart for public extraordinary humiliation, by fasting and prayer, in which we commended them into the hands of our God, whom winds and seas obey, and shortly after, sent out a pinnace to pilot them to our harbor, for it was

the first ship that ever cast anchor in this place, but our pilot having waited for them a fortnight, grew weary, and returned home, and the very next night after, the ship came in, guided by God's own hand, to our town. The sight of the harbor did so please the Captain of the ship, that he called it Fair Haven. . . ."

While on the ocean, Mr. Whitfield's company made and signed the following covenant:

"We whose names are here underwritten, intending by God's gracious permission to plant ourselves in New England, and if it may be, in the southerly part, Guilford, about Quinnipiac (New Haven). We do faithfully promise, each to each, for ourselves and families, and those that belong to us, that we will, the Lord assisting us, sit down and join ourselves together, in one entire plantation, and to be helpful each to the other, in every common work, according to every man's ability and as need shall require; and we promise not to desert, or leave each other, or the plantation, but with the consent of the rest, or the greater part of the company who have entered into this engagement.

"As for our gathering together in a church way, and the choice of officers, and members to be joined together in that

NASH

way, we do refer ourselves until such time as it shall please God to settle us in our plantations.

"In witness whereof, we subscribe our hands the first day of June, 1639."

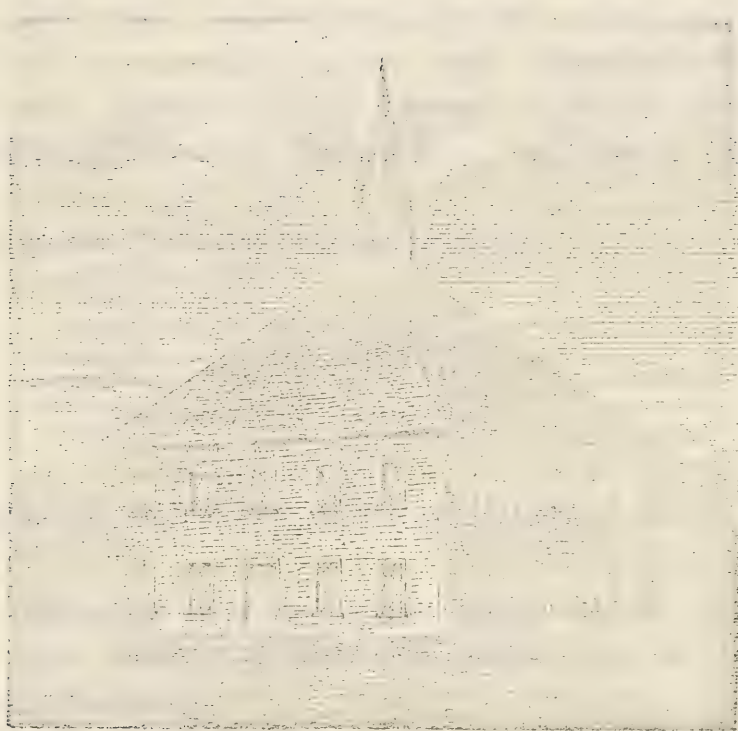
The signers of the agreement are twenty-five in number.

Thomas Nash, being a smith competent to repair guns as well as to do general work in the line of his trade, became a planter at New Haven. The reasons why he should reside in the larger plantation were so weighty that his fellow passengers doubtless released him from his agreement to settle in Guilford.

He was past middle life when he came to this country, and is generally mentioned in the Records in an affectionate way, as "Brother Nash." He became Freeman in 1640.

There has come down to us from 1646, an interesting document, telling how the people were seated in the New Haven Meetinghouse. The men on one side, the women on the other. "In the cross seats, at the end." In the second seat sat our Grandfather, Thomas Nash. In the little cross seat opposite, sat his wife, "old Sister Nash."

Ten years later, our ancestor was evidently too old to attend service, but his wife Margery, under the more dignified title of "Goodwife Nash, ye' elder," again occupies (with



The Old Meeting House
New Haven—

NASH

Roger Allen's wife, her daughter) "the little shorte seat."

This is all we know of our sixth Great-grandmother Nash, except that in the British Museum, a Record reads, "Margery Baker married Thomas Nash and went to New England. . . ."

Thomas Nash died May 12, 1658.

He was our sixth Great-grandfather.

EXTRACT FROM THE WILL OF THOMAS NASH

"Thomas Nash of New Haven, being weake in body, but of sound memory, doe make and ordaine this my last Will and Testament;

"First, I committ my soule into the hands of My Lord Jesus Christ, by whose merritts I hope to be saved, and my body to be buried at the discretion of my sonnes, in hope of a Joyful Resurrection, and for my worldly goodes which God has given mee, My Will is to dispose of it as followeth;

"I give to my Sonne Timothy my house with all my lands, with all other my goodes and estate that is undisposed of in this Will, and I doe make and ordaine and appoint

NASH

him my sole executor; The reason of my so disposing of my house and land is because he hath been very helpful to mee in my old age and hath done much more and yet which none other of children would or could doe.

"My Will is that my beloved friends and brethren be overseers of this my last Will, Whereunto I have set my hand Aug 1, 1657."

James Nash
Thomas Nash.

PART OF INVENTORY OF HIS ESTATE

	Pounds. Shillings. Pence.		
Imprimis— Wearing apparell.	5	8	0
Item. 1 Feather bed. 2 Bolsters, and pillows.	3.	02.	06.
Item. 3 Blankets, 1 old coverlitt.	1.	11	00.
Item. 1 Chaff Bed & Bed matt, & bed cord.		5.	
2 prs of sheets 3 pillow cases.	1.	13.	04.
1 Olde Bible & Psalm Book, & some other small Bookes with some olde spectacles & some little earthern ware			16 s

NASH

Timothy, youngest son of Thomas, was born in 1626, in England or Holland. The first notice of Timothy in New Haven appears to be the following, dated Dec. 3, 1645:

"Brother Thomas Nash for his son's absence at a generall trayning, pleaded his necessity of business in fetching home his hay by watter; the Court overruled and made him pay the fine."

In March, 1654, he took the Freeman's oath.

In 1657 he married Rebekah, daughter of Rev. Samuel Stone of Hartford, Conn. And at this time his father came to live with him, receiving the loving care mentioned in his Will

The last mention of Timothy in the Records of New Haven is dated April 23, 1660, when he and Isaak Beecher were fined for absence from Town Meeting.

In 1660, also, we find the record of a vote in Hartford, Conn., whereby liberty was given Timothy Nash "to comen in, as an Inhabitant with us."

The next that is found of him is in the Records of Hadley, 1661. His trade was the same as his father's, Blacksmith and Gunsmith, and in the war with the Indians he did much repairing of arms. He was a useful and respected citizen, was frequently employed in town affairs.

NASH

He held the office of Lieutenant in the Militia, by which title he is still designated. (It should be remembered that a military title in those days was generally a sign of real merit.) He was a Representative from Hadley, to the General Court for some years.

In 1668 a Jury of 12 men was summoned by the Constable of Hadley, to enquire concerning the sudden and untimely death of Samuel, son of Timothy Nash. The child was about 9 or 10 years old. The Oathe was given the Jury.

They, after diligent search respecting the cause of his death, did find "that said boy coming riding upon a mare from pasture, having a long rope fastened about the mare's neck, and fastened about the boy's waist, a dog coming out frightened the mare, so that the mare threw the boy and ran away with him, dragging him about 40 rods, and broke over five rails; the rails being broken down, he was dragged over them, into and through a narrow gate into his father's yard, and died forthwith."

At a County Court "holden at Northampton, March 30, 1669, Timothy Nash of Hadley, presenting a complaynt this winter before Ye worshipful Capt. Pynchon against Mr.

Goodwin, concerning the untimely death of his son Ye last summer, and the said Capt. Pyncheon by warrant warning the said Mr. Goodwin to appear at this courte, he being very weake in body, and not able to attend Ye courte in his own person, Mr. Andrew Bacon, and Wm. Lewis (our sixth Great-grandfather) appeared to answer in his behalfe.

“And now at this courte, the said Timothy Nash presented his complaynt in that his child a member of this commonwealth is lost, and that as he apprehends by means of Mr. Goodwin’s dog, frightening the mare upon which the child rode, shee throwing the child.

“The Courte having heard the case long debated and considered, decided that it doth not yet appear that Mr. Goodwin or Mrs. Goodwin had sufficient notice give them of their dog’s curstness, or any due warning to restrain their dog, and therefore the courte doth acquitt them, but yet inasmuch as it appears that the said dog was something more than ordinary active in running after persons riding their horses in Ye street whereby divers persons have had falls from their horses, and therefore that they may be blameworthy in not taking care as they ought to have restraynd that dog, and therefore this courte doth beare witness against all neglects in such matters whereby the lives of persons may be hazarded.

“Also apprehends that Ye said dog hath been partly

NASH

an occasion of the death of the said child, though yet divers other things did concur to that sad accident, but specially the child's winding a rope about its own waist Ye other end whereof was tyed about Ye mare's neck, and the child having nothing whereby he might rule her, that when shee threw Ye child shee dragged him after her to its destruction.

"Wherefore the Courte also accounteth Goodman Nash or his wife blameworthy in not haveing a more strict watch over their son but let him go to fetch Ye mare from pasture with such meane tackling, and their being much trouble in hearing this case the Courte ordered that Mr. Goodwin and Goodman Nash should pay 10 shillings apiece towards defraying courte charges."

Remarks by Rev. Sylvester Nash :

The decision of the court evidently turned upon a legal quibble, viz—the want of legal notice, while the court allowed that Mr. Goodwin probably knew of his dog's curstness, and well they might if divers persons had been thrown from their horses endangering their lives. The decision may be deemed at least a legal curiosity.

The Indians of the Norwottuck valley, had several forts



"Where The Old Fort stood"
Hadley, Mass.

erected to protect themselves against the attacks of their enemies. There was an important fort on the western side of Lawrence's plain called Fort Meadow.

In 1684, Timothy Nash had a grant of 2 acres of land "where the old fort stood" above the bank adjoining his land in the Skirts below. These 2 acres and the site of the old fort can be easily identified. From this fort, or from openings near it, the Indians had fine views of meadows and uplands.

Timothy Nash had a very respectable estate in lands at his death, as appears from his Will, and the subsequent agreement of his heirs.

He died in a good and respected old age, March 13, 1699.

EXTRACT FROM HIS WILL

"Touching such earthly estate as the Lord hath lent me. . . .

"To my beloved wife Rebekah—One third. . . .

"To my son John (our ancestor) my lot in Hockamun, which lot if it amounts to the full value of 20 Pounds, what is wanting shall be made up or payd to him out of my other estate, by my executors."

NASH

His wife and son were his Executors.

Timothy Nash was our fifth Great-grandfather.

Lieut. John Nash, son of Timothy and Rebekah Stone Nash, was born Aug. 21, 1667. He spent his life in his native town of Hadley.

He was a blacksmith, as his father and grandfather were before him, and like his father, a tolerably extensive land-owner, as appears by his Inventory.

He married Nov. 27, 1691, Elizabeth Kellogg, daughter of Joseph Kellogg.

John Nash was much employed in town business, and was a Representative to the General Court for many years. Also chosen Lieutenant.

"His estate divided to his seven sons and daughters, 96 Pounds each," and something residuary, and he left his widow well provided for.

Lieut. John Nash was our fourth Great-grandfather.

John Nash, 2d, son of Lieut. John and Elizabeth Kellogg Nash, was born at Hadley, July 2d, 1694. He was

one of the first eighteen settlers of Amherst in 1731. (Only five of these settlers are found in the original allotment of lands, John Nash and John Ingram, two of the five.)

The first minute in the town Records of Hadley, in relation to Amherst, is rather a gruesome one, referring as it does to the laying out in 1730, of a burying-ground for their use.

“Voted that the east inhabitants have liberty granted for a Burial place there, in some convenient place. . .” And they made choice of our ancestors, John Nash, 2d, and John Ingram, “to view and lay out about an acre of land for said use. . . .”

One summer we visited this old burying ground, but looked in vain for some of our Nash ancestors.

John Nash, 2d, was the first town clerk of Amherst, which office with that of treasurer, he held for many years.

The first meeting-house was built close to his lot, which locales his home not far from where the college Observatory now stands. He was the first deacon of the church, and active in all its interests.

His name appears constantly on the Town Records. In 1746, he received 40 Shillings “to sound ye kunk this

NASH

yeare." When "pues were to be built in ye meeting-house," John Nash was on the Committee "to see ye work donne."

There still exists the list of the first members of this, the First Church of Amherst, and in it we read the names of several of our Grandfathers and Grandmothers, so that when we heard, the first night of our stay in Amherst, strains from the good old hymns coming to us from the First Congregational Church, they stirred in our hearts loving memories of the long, long ago.

We find Deacon Nash on a "Committy to Hire Scooling, and order where sd Scoole shall be kept. . . ."

The spelling is not our Grandfather's, though we have no doubt he could equal it.

By trade he was a Blacksmith.

He married Nov., 1716, Hannah Ingram. He died in 1778.

John Nash, 2d, was our third Great-grandfather.

John Nash, 3d, son of John and Hannah Ingram Nash, was born in Hadley. He moved to Amherst, with his father.

He married Mary Graves of Hatfield, and they both

NASH

became members of the church, Nov. 18, 1759, the same day that their daughter, Judith, our Great-grandmother, was baptized.

He is always known as Ensign John Nash, having received his Commission in 1773, from Gov. Hutchinson. He was in Lieut. Joseph Billings' Company, when it marched to the relief of Fort William Henry, when it was invested in 1757.

At a meeting of officers held in Northampton, Nov. 11, 1774, several officers, John Nash among them, renounced all authority they might have by Commission from Gov. Hutchinson; but this did not satisfy the patriots of Amherst. They insisted that the Commissions should be burned. Ensign John Nash was slow in yielding to their importunities, but, probably, finally destroyed his own Commission. A fuller story of his Tory record, is given in the life of Samuel Boltwood (our Great-grandfather), his son-in-law.

It is known that he was a partisan of the famous Capt. Shay. That insurrection, as it is called, and as it undoubtedly was, must not however be judged by too rigid rules. Honest and upright men were on opposite sides in that affair. There are many who to this day justify that movement as a necessary resistance of oppression, and all agree that it did eventually modify the action of the Government.

NASH

After all these troublous times, he settled down as a good citizen, was elected townsman, and had quite a number of votes for State Senator.

*John Nash kept a Tavern in 1785. The sign hangs now in the Historical Rooms, in the old Strong house.
The date of his death is unknown.*

John Nash, 3d, was our second Great-grandfather.

Judith, daughter of Ensign John and Mary Graves Nash, was born in Amherst, in 1756.

She married Samuel Boltwood in 1777. She had but two children, Martha, our grandmother, and Elijah; both born in Amherst.

After a short residence in Conway, the family moved back to Amherst, where her husband died. She lived for nearly a quarter of a century after his death.

Uncle Elijah Arms remembers going in great haste to the death bed of our Great-grandmother Judith, and when he stood by her bedside, she said to him:

"Elijah! God is a God of mercy!"

NASH

She died April 28, 1832. No stone marks her resting-place, or that of her husband, Samuel Boltwood, but we noted a vacant space near Lieut. Solomon Boltwood's grave, where they may be laid.

Judith Nash Boltwood was our Great-grandmother.

STONE

Rebekah Stone

Wife of Timothy Nash, and daughter of Rev. Samuel Stone

Third Great-grandmother of Martha Boltwood

Wife of John Arms

John Stone, a freeholder of Hertford, England.

Rev. Samuel Stone—

Rebekah Stone Nash—

John Nash, 1st,—

John Nash, 2d—

John Nash, 3d—

Judith Nash Boltwood—

Martha Boltwood Arms—

Martha Arms—

John Stone was our seventh Great-grandfather.

STORY OF HIS SON, THE REV. SAMUEL STONE

Samuel Stone was born at Hertford, in Hertfordshire, Eng. He was baptized in the church of All Saints, July 30, 1602. He was educated at Emmanuel College, where he took the degree of A. B., in 1623, and of A. M. in 1627. He studied Divinity with the Rev. Richard Blackerly, at Aspen, in Essex. In 1630, he became lecturer at Towcester, in Northamptonshire, from which place he joined Mr. Thomas Hooker, as his associate in the so called "American Enterprise."

There was so much opposition to emigration at that time, that it was with the greatest difficulty that they evaded "the persecutors" (as they were called). They even knocked at the door of the room where Mr. Hooker and Mr. Stone were conversing; Mr. Stone being of a sudden and pleasant wit, stepped to the door with such an air of speech and look as gave him some credit with the officer who demanded whether Mr. Hooker were not there.

Mr. Stone replied with a braving sort of confidence:

"What Hooker: Do you mean Hooker that lived once at Chelmsford?"

The officer answered: "Yes, He!"

Mr. Stone immediately with a diversion like that which

STONE

once helped Athanasius made this true answer, "if it be he you look for, I saw him about an hour ago, at such a house in the town, You had best hasten thither after him."

The Officer took this for a sufficient account and went his way.

But on the ship, only Mr. Stone was owned for a preacher, until they were so far out on the ocean that they were safe.

By one or other of the three divines there was a sermon preached on the voyage, every day. Three sermons indeed: Mr. Cotton in the morning, Mr. Hooker in the afternoon, and in the evening, Mr. Stone.

"The most important arrival to New England, of these years was that of *The Griffin*, Sept 4, 1633, with 200 passengers, including three most famous men of the religious order: John Cotton, Thomas Hooker, Samuel Stone. Which 'glorious triumvirate' (says Cotton Mather, in his *Magnalia*) coming together, made the poor people in the wilderness at their coming to say, 'that the God of Heaven had supplied them with what would in some sort answer their three great necessities; Cotton for their clothing, Hooker, for their fishing, and Stone, for their building;' indeed the foundation of New England had a precious gem laid in it, when Mr. Stone arrived in these regions."

STONE

Mr. Hooker and Mr. Stone settled at Newtowne (Cambridge) where it is said that with Pastor Hooker and teacher Stone, the church was fully equipped for its appropriate work, "in the midst of one of the neatest, and best compacted towns in New England."

But gradually, and from very near the establishment of the Cambridge community, arose a certain uneasiness respecting their situation. In 1634, the inhabitants complained of "straitness for want of land, a desire for more freedom," and their strong bent to go at last prevailed, and the arrival of a large number of emigrants into the Bay, enabled them to find purchasers for their homes, and left them free to go.

THE EXODUS, AND FOUNDING OF HARTFORD

The year 1636 may be regarded as the special year of the going out of *The Children of Israel*. When nature was radiant with beauty, and the leaves and grass were sufficiently grown for the cattle to browse, Mr. Hooker and Mr. Stone (of whom it is said in the circumstances of the case, he was almost a part of Mr. Hooker himself) and most of the congregation of Cambridge set out for Connecticut.

The party was composed of about 100 emigrants, men,

STONE

women, and children, some of whom had lived in opulence and comfort in England, taking with them 160 cattle, upon whose milk they subsisted by the way. They toiled on through pathless forests of the interior of Massachusetts, with a compass for their guide, having no pillow but Jacob's, and no canopy but the heavens. (Mr. Haynes, late Governor of Massachusetts, was one of the party.)

Arriving upon the ground, Connecticut, the land was duly purchased from the Indians, through the agency of Mr. Stone. He was the sponsor of the new Settlement, being himself a native of England's Hertford (pronounced Hartford); thus Hartford was christened because our sixth Great-grandfather was the first grantee mentioned in the Indian Deed of 1636.

SAMUEL STONE AND THE PEQUOT WAR

Samuel Stone chaplained the troops on the memorable Pequot expedition, and the soldiers of the little army were probably nearly to a man, church members. His decision at Saybrook, whereby he helped Capt. Mason out of his dilemma, added to his laurels gained in the pulpit.

"At length we concluded, God assisting us, for Narra-

STONE

gansett, and so to march through their country, which bordered upon the enemy, where lived a great people. It being 15 leagues beyond Pequot. The grounds and reasons for our so acting, you shall presently understand.

“Capt. Mason apprehending an exceeding great hazard in so doing, did earnestly desire Mr. Stone that he would commend our condition to the Lord, that night to direct how, and in what manner we should demean ourselves in that respect, he being our Chaplain, and lying aboard our Pet. (The Capt. on shore).

“In the morning, very early, Mr. Stone came ashore to the Capt’s chamber, and told him he had done as he had desired, and was fully satisfied to sail for Narragansett; our council was then called, we all agreed with one accord to sail for Narragansett, which the next morning we put into execution.”

—From Capt. Mason’s narrative of the Pequot war.

It was on the 10th of May, 1637, that the little army of 90 whites, and 70 friendly Indians went down the river and landed at Saybrook. No more than 70 men gathered out of Hartford, Wethersfield and Windsor, went forward to the great battle, Samuel Stone and another of our ancestors, Thomas Root, being in the list.

STONE

Capt. Mason sums up the result of the attack in these words:

"And thus in little more than one hour's space, was their impregnable Fort, with themselves, utterly destroyed, to the number of 6 or 700 as some of themselves confessed. There were only seven taken captive, and about 7 escaped."

Mr. Stone was associated for 14 years with Thomas Hooker, until Mr. Hooker's death, after which he said with longing "Heaven is the more desirable for such company as Hooker, and Shepard, and Haynes, who are got there before me."

After Mr. Hooker's death he became sole pastor of the First Church in Hartford, for 16 years, until his death.

In his *Magnalia*, Cotton Mather says of him: "His way of living was godly, sober, and righteous, and like that great Apostle who was his namesake, he could seriously, and sincerely profess, 'Lord, Thou knowest all things, Thou knowest that I love Thee!' but there were two things wherein the power of godliness used to be most remarkably manifested. He was remarkable for both these things, viz; frequent fastings, and exact Sabbaths.

"He would not rarely set apart whole days for Fasting

STONE

and Prayer before the Lord, whereby he ripened his soul for the inheritance of the Saints in Light, and when the weekly Sabbath came—which he still began in the evening before—he would compose himself unto a most Heavenly frame in all things, and not let fall a word but what should be grace, serious, pertinent.

“Moreover, it was his custom that the sermon he was to preach on the Lord’s Day, he would the night before deliver to his own family, a custom which was attended with several advantages.

“He had a certain pleasancy in conversation, which was the effect and symptom of his most ready wit; A man of principles, and in the management of those principles, he was both a Load-stone, and a Flint-stone.

“He was an extraordinary person at an argument, and as clear and smart a disputant, as most that ever lived in the world.”

Mather places him in his list of our first good men.

He printed a single pamphlet, “A Congregational church is a Catholic visible church,” and left two works still in Ms.

He married in 1641, Mrs. Elizabeth Allen of Boston, a widow. Their daughter Rebekah, married Timothy Nash, our fifth Great-grandfather.

STONE

*"He who was born at Hartford, in England, died in
Hartford, of New England, July 20, 1663.*

"Quem nubila victa coronant."

("Crowned by the clouds through which he passed.")

Rev. Samuel Stone was our sixth Great-grandfather.

THE EPITAPH INSCRIBED UPON THE REV. SAMUEL STONE'S MONUMENT

Mr. SAMUEL STONE deceased

ye 61 yeare of his age.

JVLY 20. 1663.

New england's glory & her radiant crowne.
Was he who now in softest bed of downe ,
Till glorious resurrection morne appeare
Doth safely, sweetely sleepe in Jesus here ;
In nature's solid art, and reasoning well,
'Tis knowne, beyond compare, he did excell :
Errors corrupt, by sinnenous dispute,
He did oppvgne, and clearely them confute :
Above all things he Christ his Lord prefered,
Hartford ! thy richest jewel's here interd.



Rev. Samuel Stiles Monument.
Hartford, Conn.

STONE

Rebekah, daughter of Rev. Samuel Stone, married Timothy Nash, 1657. They had eleven children.

AN EXTRACT FROM HER FATHER'S WILL.

“Also as a token of my fatherly love, and respect, I doe giue unto my three daughters, Rebekah, Mary, and Sarah, 40 Shillings, each of them, to be pay’d them by my dear wife, in household stuffs, as it shall be prized in the inventory. . . .”

Rebekah Stone Nash died March, 1709.

She was our fifth Great-grandmother.

Elizabeth Kellogg

*Wife of John Nash, 1st
Great-grandmother of Judith Nash
Mother of Martha Boltwood
Wife of John Arms*

Lieut. Joseph Kellogg, one of the early settlers of Elizabeth Kellogg Nash—Farmington, Conn., in 1651. The John Nash, 2d—only record we find of him at Ensign John Nash, 3d—Farmington, is a good one: “Joseph Judith Nash Boltwood—Kellogg, and his wife, was joined to Martha Boltwood Arms—the church, Oct. 9, 1653.”

Martha Arms—He was a weaver by trade, and removed as early as 1659 to Boston, where he purchased a homestead, a house and lot “fronting on the street leading to Roxbury,” now Washington Street. He went to Hadley in 1662, where he was a prominent citizen, chosen Lieutenant and often Selectman.

The town made an agreement with Lieut. Joseph Kellogg, to keep the Ferry between Hadley and Northampton.

KELLOGG

He was to have a boat for horses, and canoe for persons, and to receive for man and horse, eightpence in wheat, or other pay, or sixpence in money. For single persons, three-pence, and when more than one, twopence each. On Lecture days, people passing to and from lecture, were to pay only a penny each, if six or more went over together.

He received from the Colony, 40 Pounds, for ferriage of soldiers in the Indian Wars of 1677, and for a team lost in service. Joseph Kellogg, his son John, and his grandson, kept the Ferry for almost a century.

Hadley had two officers in the Falls Fight. Both were our ancestors, Sergeants. Joseph Kellogg was one of these.

In his home on Ferry lot, he had liberty to "supply lodgings, horsemeat or refreshing, to strangers in need. . ."

His name is on the first deed of Sunderland:

"On the 10th of April, 1674, John Pyncheon, acting on behalf of Robert Boltwood, and Joseph Kellogg, bought of several Indians, land etc."

It is recorded that his son, and namesake, was fined 10 shillings, in 1682, "for breach of the Sabbath, having travelled till midnight, in the night before the Sabbath. . ."

KELLOGG

Joseph Kellogg had twenty children. His first wife had nine.

He married Mar 9, 1667, eight months after his first wife's death, Abigail, daughter of Stephen Terry. They had eleven children.

Lieut. Joseph Kellogg died 1707.

He was our fifth Great-grandfather.

We cannot help feeling from the wording of this ancestor's will, made nearly 200 years ago, that he was of a loving, grateful nature. We give some extracts from it.

EXTRACTS FROM JOSEPH KELLOGG'S WILL

“Upon the 27th day of June, 1707, in the sixth year of the Reign of our Sovereign lady Anne, By the Grace of God, of England, Scotland, France, and Ireland, Queen defender of the Faith; I Joseph Kellogg, in ve County of Hampshire, within the Province of the Massachusetts Bay, in New England; I hope Having a suitable sence of the many Infirmities the Considerable old age that I am now come to, hath

exposed me to, all which giving me warning that I must shortly when it Pleases God to call yield to Death, and Lay Down this Earthly Tabernacle; Being at present through the great goodness of God, of sound mind and Perfect memory, and accounting it my Duty to set things in order with reference to that portion of estate God in goodness hath given me, and therefore I do make this my last Will and Testament as follows:

"I commit myself, Soul and Body, into the hands of God who made them, and my dear Redeemer, the Lord Jesus Christ, who hath redeemed them, and in whom I Trust and Believe will be my Advocate with the Father, at the great Day of his Appearing, and in and through His merits, and satisfaction to obtain acceptance.

"My body which I leave to my Executors, for a Christianly, Comely burial, in hopes of a blessed Resurrection, when Soul and Body shall by the mighty power of God be Reunited, and be with Him forever, in that Place of everlasting rest, where sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

"I ordain and my will is, that all my just debts, and funeral expenses be well and truly paid.

"I give and bequeathe unto my loving sons, Stephen and Nathan Kellogg, considering that I had a considerable estate with their mother, out of Father Terry's estate, therefore I give to them all that allotment that was my father Terry's.

KELLOGG

"I give and bequeathe to my loving daughters, Elizabeth Kellogg, alias Nash (our Grandmother), Abigail Kellogg, alias Smith, etc. as an addition to what I have already given them which I esteem at 15 Pounds apiece, Fourty shillings apiece, in such pay and at such time, as my executors can make it good to them out of my estate.

"I give and bequeathe to my loving wife, Abigail, who hath borne the burthen with me in all my long continued weakness and infirmities, my house and homestead, my barn, outhouseing, orchards, gardens, yards, situate in Hadley aforesaid, as also that allotment next to Saml Smith's allotment, as we go to the Fort Meadow in Hadley, with all other of my lands in Hadley, or elsewhere, not given in this my Will otherwise; with all rights of outland or commons or any lands that may grow to be of right to me within the bounds of the township of Hadley, or elsewhere, with all moveable goods or estate within doors or without in Hadley or elsewhere to be for her comfortable livelyhood while she lives, she keeping the houseing and barns in good repair, as also I give her full liberty to remove the Houses Barnes or fences as she shall judge best, and most advantageous for her, and them that may enjoy it after her decease, as also I hereby give her full liberty and power provided by good advice she see cause to make sale of said houseing and homestead, then to do it, provided always all the said estate that she shall leave either in aforesaid

KELLOGG

houseing and lands when she Dyes it shall be by her disposed of amongst those children I had by her, and to them, or any of them that she shall see need to dispose it.

"I ordain constitute and appoint my dear and loving wife Abigail Kellogg, and my loving friend Capt. Partridge to be joynt executors of this my last Will and Testament. . ."

KELLOGG

Elizabeth, daughter of Joseph and Abigail Terry Kellogg, was born Oct. 9, 1673, at Hadley, Mass. When only eighteen years of age she married John Nash, 1st, Nov. 27, 1691. They had eight sons and three daughters.

After her husband's death she moved to West Hartford, Conn., where she probably lived with, or near, her son Moses. She is buried in the old burying ground of West Hartford. On the stone is written:

In Memory of
ELIZABETH NASH.
Wife of Lieut. JOHN NASH
of Hadley. Who died
July 4. 1750.
77 years of age.

Elizabeth Kellogg Nash was our fourth Great-grand-mother.

Abigail Terry

Wife of Joseph Kellogg

Mother of Elizabeth Kellogg Nash

and

Third Great-grandmother of Martha Boltwood

Wife of John Arms

Stephen Terry was in Dorchester as early as 1630.
Abigail Terry Kellogg— He probably came in the ship that
Elizabeth Kellogg Nash— brought so many of our ancestors
John Nash, 2d— at that early period to New England,
John Nash, 3d— the “Mary and John.”
Judith Nash Boltwood— In the History of Dorchester,
Martha Boltwood Arms— he is spoken of as a man of some
Martha Arms— distinction, one of its very first settlers,
and one of its first Selectmen.

He removed to Windsor in 1637, and it appears from the Windsor records, that he was married in Dorchester,

TERRY

though his wife's name is not given. He had a homelot in Windsor, 14 and one-half rods wide. He belonged to the first company of cavalry in Connecticut.

He became one of Hadley's early settlers, and in 1663, that town's first constable. Only substantial men were elected to this office. The constable had many duties to perform, and in executing them he carried a black staff, five feet long, tipped with brass. We wish that we might have seen our ancestor, thus armed.

Stephen Terry died at Hadley, Mass., Sept. 1668.

His wife had died many years before.

He was our sixth Great-grandfather.

Abigail, daughter of Stephen and ——— Terry, was born Sept. 2d, 1646, and was baptized six days later. Her mother died when she was less than a year old.

She married May 9, 1667, Joseph Kellogg.

In 1673, at the March Court, Abigail Terry was one of the twenty-five wives who "were presented to the jury, as

TERRY

persons of small estate, who used to wear silk contrary to law. . . .” She was fully acquitted of this crime, William Clark, our good Graves ancestor, being one of the judges who acquitted her.

She was living as late as 1714.

Abigail Terry Kellogg was our fifth Great-grandmother.

Hannah Ingram

Wife of John Nash, 2d

Great-grandmother of Martha Boltwood

Wife of John Arms

John Ingram, our fifth Great-grandfather, was born in John Ingram, 2d— 1642. He came to Hadley a year Hannah Ingram Nash— or two after the first settlers, in 1662. John Nash, 3d— He appears as ferry-man, at the Judith Nash Boltwood— north end of the street, between Had-Martha Boltwood Arms—ley and Hatfield. The ferriage in Martha Arms— 1696, was fourpence for a man and horse, threepence for a horse or horned beast, and one penny for a man, if paid down in money. If not so paid Ingram might demand double, or do as they could agree.

He was Freeman in 1683 and was in the famous Falls Fight, 1676.

INGRAM

Judd, in his History of Hadley, says, "Of the fathers of Hadley, only five have gravestones in Hadley graveyard." John Ingram is one of these. With difficulty we found the little stone, now over 180 years old.

He died June 22, 1722, aged 80 years.

He married Elizabeth Gardner. They had six sons and two daughters.

John, oldest child of John and Elizabeth Gardner Ingram, was born June 29, 1656.

His name is at the head of the first petition to make East Hadley a separate town. The petition was granted Dec. 31, 1734, and it became the third precinct, afterwards Amherst.

"The precinct was bounded as they desired." They were to build a Meeting house, and settle a learned, orthodox minister, and they might tax non-resident lands not belonging to the old precinct, twopence an acre for six years, to support the minister.

John Ingram was one of the first sixteen male members of the first church in Amherst, formed in 1739. He received 42 rods, five feet, in the first distribution of Amherst land.

In 1735, he was moderator of the town meeting, and on the Committee to "build ye Meeting House."

INGRAM

He died about 1742, seventeen years before the town of Amherst was incorporated.

He married, June 26, 1689, Mehitable, daughter of John Dickinson.

Hannah, daughter of John and Mehitable Dickinson Ingram, was born Oct. 17, 1697. She married Nov., 1716, Dea. John Nash, of Amherst. They had three sons and one daughter.

Her name, with that of her husband, is still preserved on the list of the first members of the first church formed in Amherst.

Hannah Ingram Nash was our third Great-grand-mother.

Elizabeth Gardner

Wife of John Ingram, 1st

Grandmother of Hannah Ingram Nash

and

Third Great-grandmother of Martha Boltwood

Wife of John Arms

Samuel Gardner, our sixth Great-grandfather, came to Elizabeth Gardner Ingram—this country before 1640. He is John Ingram, 2d,— first heard of at Hartford, where Hannah Ingram Nash— he “was one of several persons to John Nash, 3d— whom lots were granted in 1640, Judith Nash Boltwood— if the towns men see noe just cause Martha Boltwood Arms— for the contrary, and they will accept of them upon such terms as the townsmen shall see cause to propose. . . .” He took the Freeman’s oath, March 26,

GARDNER

1661. He is said to have been at Wethersfield soon after this time, and from there removed to Hadley in 1663, having been in 1659, one of the "engagers" who signed the well-known paper promising to settle in Hadley.

He lived at the extreme end of the great street.

In 1669, Samuel Gardner was one of the first signers of the petition of Hadley against the imposts, or customs. We give a short quotation from this petition:

"Seeing we are required (and according to righteousness, joyfully do it) to bear our share of the burdens and duty belonging to the whole, we trust we shall share the privileges proportionately, and find such protection and safeguard, under the government as that the laws and order thereof, may not expose us more than others of the colony to detriment or ruin. . . ."

Samuel Gardner died at Hadley, Nov. 22, 1696.

He married Elizabeth ———.

Elizabeth, daughter of Samuel and Elizabeth ———

GARDNER

Gardner, was probably born in Wethersfield, Conn. She married John Ingram, 1st, Nov. 21, 1664, the year after her parents moved from Wethersfield to Hadley.

They had seven children. One of these was slain in the Deerfield Massacre.

Elizabeth Gardner Ingram died Nov. 9, 1684.

She was our fifth Great-grandmother.

Mehitable Dickinson

Wife of John Ingram,

Great-great-grandmother of Martha Boltwood

Wife of John Arms

Nathaniel Dickinson, our emigrant ancestor, was born John Dickinson— in Ely, Cambridge, England, in Mehitable Dickinson Ingram—the year 1600. He came to Hannah Ingram Nash— America in 1630, and about this John Nash, 3d— date married Anna Gull. He first Judith Nash Boltwood— settled in Watertown, then, in Martha Boltwood Arms— 1637, removed to Wethersfield, Martha Arms— where in 1645, he was made Recording Clerk, being “a fine penman.” This office he held for many years. The ten following years he was Representative to the General Court.

April 18, 1659, Nathaniel Dickinson became one of the “Engagers” of Hadley, and was one of the five chosen to go

The Old Bay Path - Hadley, Mass.



DICKINSON

to that place "to spy out the land," and to lay out the town-lots, with permission to choose one for himself.

He first settled on the west side of the river, 1660, and March 26, took the Freeman's oath.

1663, he purchased the home lot at the lower end of West Street (the pride of Hadley, which he is said to have laid out) adjoining the old Bay Path, which there crosses it. With the exception of the short residence across the river in Halford, this was his home until his death.

In 1663, he was on the meeting-house Committee. He was one of the first deacons of the Hadley church, and on the School-Committee for many years, and one of the first trustees of the Hopkins Grammar School, chosen by the town, in response to the request of Goodwin, for "two more able, and pious men."

He was also chosen Town Clerk. Nathaniel Dickinson was "an intelligent; and influential man." In the dispute between the east and west side inhabitants, Nathaniel Dickinson signed for Hadley.

In 1663, he was one of the Hadley Troopers.

This last year of our ancestor's life was full of trouble. Three of his sons were slain by the Indians. One at the Swamp Fight at Hadley, being the first man killed in King Philip's War, and one at Northfield, and the third, John, our ancestor, at The Falls Fight.

DICKINSON

Nathaniel Dickinson died June 16, 1676, and is buried in the old burying ground in Hadley.

He was our sixth Great-grandfather on both Arms and Graves sides.

John, son of Nathaniel and Anna Gull Dickinson, emigrated with his father, from Wethersfield, to Hadley. He was then already a married man, with several children, though not yet twenty-five, and his name is signed below his father's to the agreement, or engagement, of those who intended to remove from Connecticut to Massachusetts. Dated at Hartford, April 18, 1659.

In the division of the homelots of Hadley, John Dickinson was assessed 150 Pounds, and he received 6 acres.

His name is on the petition protesting against duties to be paid on goods imported into the colony, Feb. 19, 1688.

In 1647, John Dickinson married Frances, daughter of Nathaniel Foote of Wethersfield.

John Dickinson was Sergt. from Hadley in the Falls Fight, May 19, 1676, and was there killed, with Capt. Turner.

DICKINSON

John Dickinson was our fifth Great-grandfather.

The Graves-Dickinson descent comes through John's brother, Nathaniel.

Mehitable, daughter of John and Frances Foote Dickinson, was the youngest child of a family of ten.

She married, June 26, 1689, John Ingram.

She was one of the first members of the first church of Amherst.

We do not know the date of her death.

Mehitable Dickinson Ingram was our fourth Great-grandmother.

Frances Foote

Wife of John Dickinson

Third Great-grandmother of Martha Boltwood

Wife of John Arms

Nathaniel Foote, our emigrant ancestor, was born in Frances Foote Dickinson— England, in 1593. He married Mehitable Dickinson Ingram—there, in 1615, Elizabeth Deming Hannah Ingram Nash— (whose brother, John Deming, became one of the magistrates of John Nash, 3d— the Colony of Connecticut, and Judith Nash Boltwood— the Colony of Connecticut, and Martha Boltwood Arms— one of the patentees named in the Charter). Their children were all born in England. One of his daughters, Rebecca, married into the Graves, line of ancestors, and his daughter, Frances, married into the Arms. So Nathaniel Foote is our sixth Great-grandfather on both sides.

He settled first in Watertown, and became a few years later, one of the earliest settlers of Wethersfield, Conn. In 1637, his initials, N. F., were to be seen cut in a tree that marked the boundary line between Wethersfield and Hartford.

In the Hartford County History, it says :

“With Nathaniel Foote, the list of known adventurers, closes. Although he had the largest share of adventure lands, his coming to Conn. was not the earliest; it having been, according to all indications, in 1635. He was an elderly man, and among his posterity have been some of Connecticut’s most distinguished sons. . . .”

He took the oath of Freeman in 1633. Nathaniel Foote was a good man, a farmer, and trusted by his neighbors and townsmen.

He died in 1644, and is buried in the ancient burying ground of Wethersfield. After his death, his wife married Thomas Wells, Governor of Connecticut, and brother of our Welles ancestor.

Frances, daughter of Nathaniel and Elizabeth Deming

FOOTE

Foot. She married at Wethersfield, John Dickinson. They removed to Hadley, where she lived and died.

They had ten children. Mchitable, our Grandmother, was the youngest.

Mary Graves

Wife of John Nash, 3d

Grandmother of Martha Boltwood

Wife of John Arms

Among the many surprises which have come to us in our genealogical studies has been the discovery that this Arms grandmother was a direct lineal descendant of our emigrant Graves ancestor, Thomas Graves—
Isaak Graves—
John Graves—
Aaron Graves—
Mary Graves Nash—
Judith Nash Boltwood—
Martha Boltwood Arms—
Martha Arms—

as. The Graves genealogy has been fully written up in the "Graves Ancestry;" so we give but a condensed account of it here.

Thomas, the founder of our branch of the Graves family, was born in England, 1585, and emigrated to America, with his wife, Sarah, and five children, before 1645.

GRAVES

The first official record found of the family, in this country, was at Hartford, Conn., in 1645, Thomas at that time owning there three pieces of real estate, one, his own house.

It is also stated that Thomas, owing to his advanced age, over sixty, was "exempted from watching, and warding."

The same Puritan principles which undoubtedly led our ancestor to leave his English home for a new country, prompted him also to give up house and lands in Hartford, and push on into the wilderness. After a ten days' weary march through pathless forests, they reached their journey's end, a beautiful strip of meadow land, stretching down to the banks of the "great river."

This settlement they afterwards named Hatfield, in memory of old England.

Here, in the home of his son, Isaak, just a year later, 1662, Thomas died, aged 77. Sarah, his wife, survived him only four years.

Thomas Graves was our sixth Great-grandfather, on both Arms and Graves sides, his Great-great-granddaughter being an Arms Grandmother.

GRAVES

Isaak, oldest son of Thomas and Sarah — Graves, was a man of mature age when he came with his father to America.

From the first settlement at Hartford, his name is mentioned as one of the prominent townsmen, serving on juries, acting as surveyor, and "generally filling those places that stalwart, intelligent, and respected citizens usually are called upon to fill."

After his removal to Hatfield, the same record is still true of him. He was made Freeman, Sergeant in the Colonial Militia, and Clerk of the writs for Hatfield.

His brave defense of the town in its struggle for separation from Hadley, when he appeared as the Hatfield Representative, before the General Court in Boston, has been most fully reported in the Graves book.

We learn from the story that this brave old ancestor, like Abraham Lincoln, considered no "matter settled, until it was settled right," and also like a brother soldier of greater fame, he "proposed to fight it out on this line, if it took all summer," and he did fight until the desired end was reached, and the two towns, Hadley and Hatfield, had each their separate meeting-house, with accompanying town rights.

GRAVES

Just then, when his labor accomplished, he had the time and incentive to make the needed improvements to his own part of the little village, suddenly the bolt fell, and without warning or thought of danger, our first Colonial officer of the Graves name, was called upon to give his life, heading the long list of those who in those early days, died that we might live.

On the morning of the 19th of Sept., 1677, Sergt. Isaak Graves and his brother, John, while "laying shingles on the roof of a new house, they were building for John Graves Jr. outside of the protecting stockade, were surprised and attacked by Indians, and were most cruelly slain."

Among the twelve brave men killed upon that fatal day, there was no better, braver man than our fifth Great-grandfather, Isaak Graves.

Isaak Graves married Mary, daughter of Richard and Anne ----- Church.

Our knowledge of John, son of Isaak and Mary Church Graves, is limited to three dates. His birth, in Hat-

GRAVES

field, 1664, his marriage, at Chelmsford, to Sarah, daughter of John Banks, Oct. 26, 1686, and his death in 1746.

Of the life between these dates, the records are completely silent, save the number of his children, which was nine.

The Graves and Arms lines here separate. As Graves we are descended from Isaac, 2d, John's oldest son. As Arms, we are descended from Aaron, his youngest son.

John Graves was our fourth Great-grandfather.

Aaron, the youngest child of John and Sarah Banks Graves, was born in Hatfield, Feb. 2, 1707.

He married Mary, daughter of Ebenezer Wells, and they made their home in that portion of Hatfield, which is now Williamsburg.

Aaron Graves was one of our soldier ancestors, and was at Fort Massachusetts, in the French War of 1748.

He died in 1788, aged 81 years.

He was our third Great-grandfather.

GRAVES

Mary, daughter of Aaron and Mary Wells Graves, was born in Hatfield, Oct. 19, 1733. She married May 22, 1754, Ensign John Nash, Jr., of Amherst.

Mary Graves Nash was our Great-great-grandmother.

Her daughter, Judith, married Samuel Boltwood.

Mary Church

Wife of Isaac Graves

Third Great-grandmother of Martha Boltwood

Wife of John Arms

Richard Church, our emigrant ancestor, is first heard of
Mary Church— in America, at Hartford, in 1637,
John Graves— where he was one of the original
Aaron Graves— proprietors. In 1655, he was a
Mary Graves Nash— surveyor of highways, the same year
Judith Nash Boltwood— he was freed “from watching and
Martha Boltwood Arms— warding.” He removed to Hadley,
Martha Arms— in 1659, but being an elderly man,
held no office there. He died Dec.
16, 1667. His wife, Anne ———, died at Hatfield, March
10, 1684.

CHURCH

Richard Church was our sixth Great-grandfather, on both Arms and Graves sides.

Mary, daughter of Richard and Anne ——— Church, married Isaak Graves, in 1640.

She was our fifth Great-grandmother.

Sarah Banks

Wife of John Graves

Great-great-grandmother of Martha Boltwood

Wife of John Arms

John Banks—*All that we know of him is that he*

Sarah Banks—*lived at Chelmsford, Mass., and*

Aaron Graves—*purchased land there. He was our*

Mary Graves Nash—*fifth Great-grandfather.*

Judith Nash Boltwood—*Sarah, daughter of John Banks,*

Martha Boltwood Arms—*married John Graves, at Chelmsford,*

Martha Arms—*Oct. 26, 1686. She was our fourth*

Great-grandmother, on both the Arms

and Graves sides. She died in Hatfield.

Mary Wells

Wife of Aaron Graves

Great-grandmother of Martha Boltwood

Wife of John Arms

*The Welles family were founded in America by Thomas Thomas Welles— Welles, 1st, one of the English Pur-
Hugh Welles— itans, who was born in England
Thomas Wells— about the year 1570, married about
Ebenezer Wells— 1596, and came to America, in one
Mary Wells Graves— of three ships, "George Bonaventure,"
Mary Graves Nash— "The Lion's Whelp," or "Talbot,"
Judith Nash Boltwood— which fleet of vessels sailed from
Martha Boltwood Arms— London, March, 1629, and landed at
Martha Arms— Naumkeak (Salem), Mass., June 24,
1629, one year before Boston was
founded. Thomas came to America alone, his family consist-
ing of seven sons, all residing at that time, in Essex Co.,*

Eng. Thomas Welles was a strong Puritan, but in practice he was necessarily very quiet, being a man of great wealth, which he had acquired by inheritance, aided by the business of ship-building. He was heard to say after his emigration, that his shipyards in London, which had been confiscated to the Crown, were worth more than the whole township of Westerly, then comprising Charlestown and Hopkinton.

He was the owner and proprietor of a large hotel in London, and was obliged to be very circumspect in his conduct, as the hotel was much frequented by the nobility. He was however suspected by the "High Commissioner Court" of entertaining Puritan principles, and was closely watched by emissaries. One day at dinner, he imprudently let fall some remarks of a Puritanical nature, which were at once observed and reported.

"The High Commissioner Court, or supreme ecclesiastical tribunal, was immediately under the direction of the crown. A conformity of religion was demanded over the whole kingdom, and every refusal of the established ceremonies, was liable to be chastised by this court with deprivation, fine, confiscation, and imprisonment; nor were the judges of the court obliged to proceed by legal information; rumor and suspicion were sufficient grounds. . . ."

—Russell, *Modern Europe*, 1629.

WELLS

Thomas Welles' oldest son (Thomas) being at that time Private Secretary to Lord Say, soon became cognizant of the unfortunate table talk, and lost no time in hurrying his father (then about 60 years of age) on a vessel bound for America, in a manner not calculated to arouse suspicion; but he was afterwards missed, and the ship containing him searched, prior to her departure, though without success, as he was concealed within a water cask until the vessel had put to sea.

His sons soon followed him, and shortly after, the family removed to Rhode Island, prior to the Settlement made by Roger William's Company.

Thomas Welles, 1st, here purchased a tract of over 400 acres of land, of the Naragansett Indians, and made a settlement in the wilderness, which he called *Wellstown*. Some of the land yet remains in his family, now over two centuries. He spent the residue of his lifetime at this place, and at his death was interred in a burial place on the land, called by the curious name of "*Chimney-Orchard*."

Thomas Welles, 1st, was our seventh Great-grandfather.

Hugh, the second son of Thomas Welles, 1st, was born in Colchester, Essex County, England.

WELLS

He married in England, about 1619, Frances ———. They had four children, all born in England.

Hugh Welles came to America in the ship "Globe," 1635. He was associated with his brother Thomas, the Governor of Connecticut, in the founding of Hartford. He lived in Wethersfield, where he was an Ensign in the Militia.

Hugh Welles was our sixth Great-grandfather.

Thomas, 2d, son of Hugh and Frances ——— Welles, was born in England, in 1620.

He came from Wethersfield to Hadley, and died there, in 1676, aged 56, leaving a good estate.

He married in 1651, Mary, daughter of William Beardsley, of Hartford. They had 13 children.

Thomas Wells, 2d, was our fifth Great-grandfather.

Ebenezer, son of Thomas and Mary Beardsley Wells, was born July 20, 1669. He was their tenth child.

WELLS

He lived in Hatfield, and married. Aug. 15, 1705, Sarah, daughter of Samuel Smith.

Ebenezer was our fourth Great-grandfather.

Mary, the youngest child of Ebenezer and Sarah Smith Wells, was born Oct. 24, 1707.

She married Aaron Graves, and lived and died in that portion of Hatfield which was afterwards called Williamsburg.

Mary Wells Graves was our third Great-grandmother.

Mary Beardsley

Wife of Thomas Wells

Third Great-grandmother of Martha Boltwood

Wife of John Arms

In his "Early Puritan Settlers of New England," Hin-
William Beardsley— man says very truly of this name,
Mary Beardsley Wells— "this has been a respectable family
Ebenezer Wells— from the First Settlers of Strat-
Mary Wells Graves— ford. . . ."

Mary Graves Nash— Stratford, Conn., was founded
Judith Nash Boltwood— in 1639. William Beardsley was
Martha Boltwood Arms—among the first settlers and original
Martha Arms— proprietors. He embarked with his
family from London, in the ship
"Planter," April, 1635. He was admitted Freeman in Mass-
achusetts, Dec. 7, 1636, but in what part of that colony he
first located, it is not easy to determine. The conjecture is

BEARDSLEY

that he was one of the Rev. Peter Buckley's church members at Concord, and emigrated with other planters from that place to Stratford; as in the ship "Planter," came also a Richard Harris, whose name appears among the earliest settlers of Stratford, and as he is known to have been at Concord, it is probable William Beardsley came with him.

William Beardsley is described in the Custom House Records, London, as a "mason." The proportion of masons among the early emigrants to New England was very small, less than one in a hundred. He was aged 30.

His family consisted of Mary, his wife, aged 26, and daughter, Mary, aged 4, sons, John, two years, and Joseph, six months.

William Beardsley was a man of wealth, influence and substance, Deputy to General Court of Connecticut, at Hartford, 1645, and later, for seven annual sessions from 1649.

Sept., 1649, when he was present at one of these sessions, he received an appointment under the following vote:

"Mr. Ludlow was desired to take care for preparing the souldgers with provisions, and all other necessaryes for the designe in the two (seaside) townes. . . . and Mr. Hall, and William Beardsley, are chosen to assist therein."

Again in October session, 1651, a Court Record was made, as follows:

BEARDSLEY

“Andrew Warde, George Hull, and Goodman Beardsley, are appointed for assistance to joine with the magistrates for the execution of justice in the towns by the seaside. . . .”

In 1659, he was appointed “to consider the state and condition of Arthur Bostwick and wife, and to order what they think suitable therein. . . .”

William Beardsley died in 1661.

He was our sixth Great-grandfather.

Mary, daughter of William and Mary —— Beardsley, was born in England, 1631. She married, in 1651, Thomas Wells, of Hadley.

Mary Beardsley Wells was our fifth Great-grandmother.

Sarah Smith

Wife of Ebenezer Wells

Great-great-grandmother of Martha Boltwood

Wife of John Arms

Rev. Henry Smith probably came over from England in Samuel Smith—the “Elizabeth,” in 1635. He was Sarah Smith Wells—in Charlestown, Mass., in 1636, and Mary Wells Graves—removed, in 1637, with his family, Mary Graves Nash—to Wethersfield, Conn., where he Judith Nash Boltwood—became the first settled pastor of Martha Boltwood Arms—Wethersfield; preaching and caring Martha Arms—for the interests of the church for eight years. His pastorate there seemed to be greatly disturbed by Clement Chaplin, who is called in the Hartford History, “the wealthy, factious, ruling elder.”

But the controversy that disturbed the church, and

SMITH

which only ended in the removal of a large part of its members to Hadley, in 1659, does not seem to have broken out until two or three years after the death of the Rev. Henry Smith, although he often has had the credit of creating the division.

He married in England, Dorothy ——, who after his death, married our Graves ancestor, John Russell, Sr.

Rev. Henry Smith died in 1648.

He was our sixth Great-grandfather.

Samuel, son of Henry and Dorothy —— Smith, was born Jan. 27, 1639, at Wethersfield, Conn.

In 1662, he married Mary Ensign. They lived for three years at Northampton, then removed to Hadley, where he died, Sept. 10. 1703, aged 64.

Samuel Smith was our fifth Great-grandfather.

Sarah, second child of Samuel and Mary Ensign Smith, was born probably at Northampton.

SMITH

Several years after the murder of her first husband, John Lawrence, by Indians, she married Ebenezer Wells, Aug. 15, 1705.

She had but one child, Mary, who married Aaron Graves.

Sarah Smith Wells was our fourth Great-grandmother.

Mary Ensign

Wife of Samuel Smith

Third Great-grandmother of Martha Boltwood

Wife of John Arms

The family name was originally Ensinge; Ensing; Ensigne; Ensign: in Counties Norfolk, Essex, and Kent, England, as early as 1395.

James Ensign—
Mary Ensign Smith—
Sarah Smith Wells—
Mary Wells Graves—
Mary Graves Nash—
Judith Nash Boltwood—
Martha Boltwood Arms—
Martha Arms—

James Ensign and his wife, Sarah ———, were among the early settlers of Cambridge, in 1634. He was made Freeman, March 4, 1635. He became in 1639, an original proprietor of Hartford, as is chronicled on the Old Settlers Monument, in Center Street Burying ground, Hartford.

His homelot was on what is now Elm Street. He was chosen to the then honorable and important position of con-

ENSIGN

stable, in 1649. *A Chimney Viewer*, in 1665, and *Townsmen* in 1656.

He, and his wife, Sarah ———, were original members of both first and second churches of Hartford.

James Ensign died Nov., 1670, leaving for those days, a pretty good property, 729 Pounds, 2 Shillings and Ninepence.

He was our sixth Great-grandfather.

His widow, Sarah, died in 1676.

Mary, daughter of James and Sarah Ensign, was born in Hartford.

She married, 1662, Samuel Smith, and lived in Northampton and Hadley. They had eight children.

Mary Ensign Smith was our fifth Great-grandmother.



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